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50TH ANNIVERSARY SERIES
AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2003

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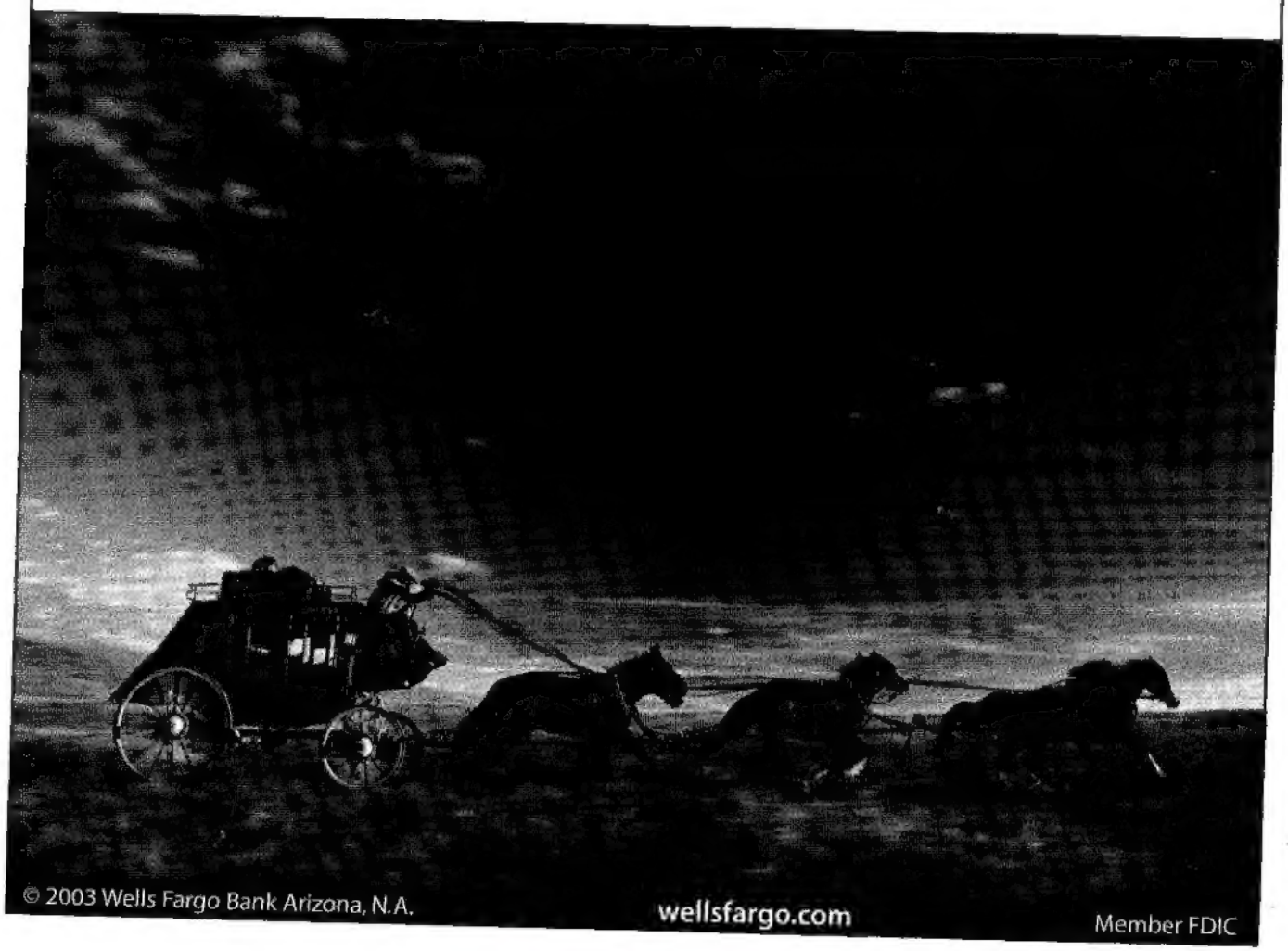

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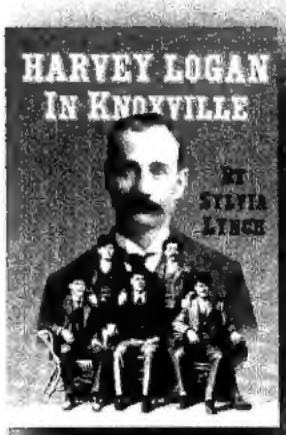

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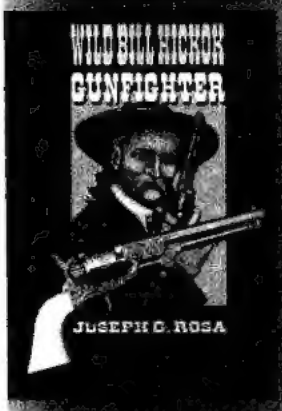

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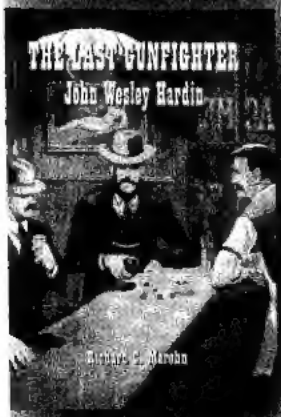

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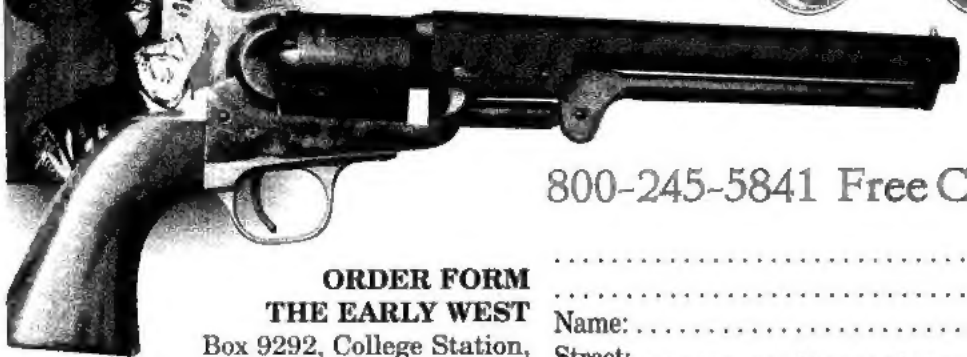

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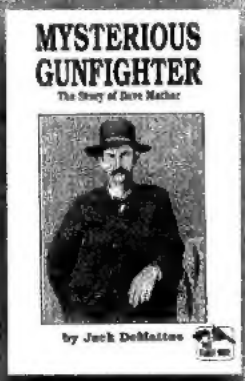

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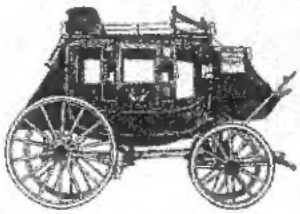

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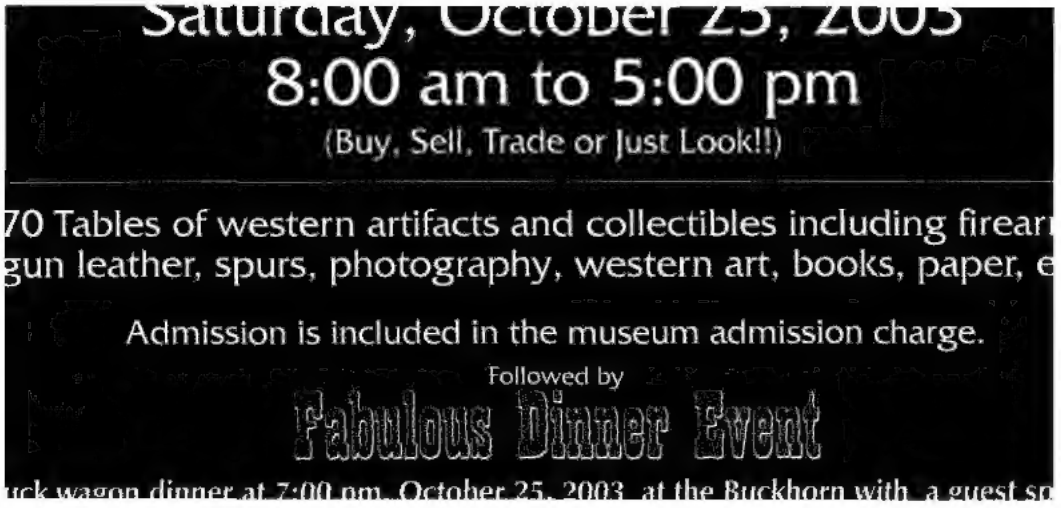
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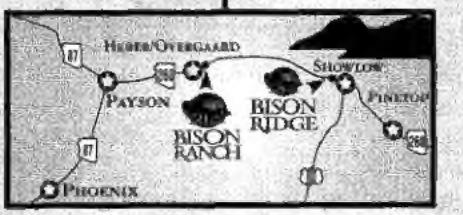

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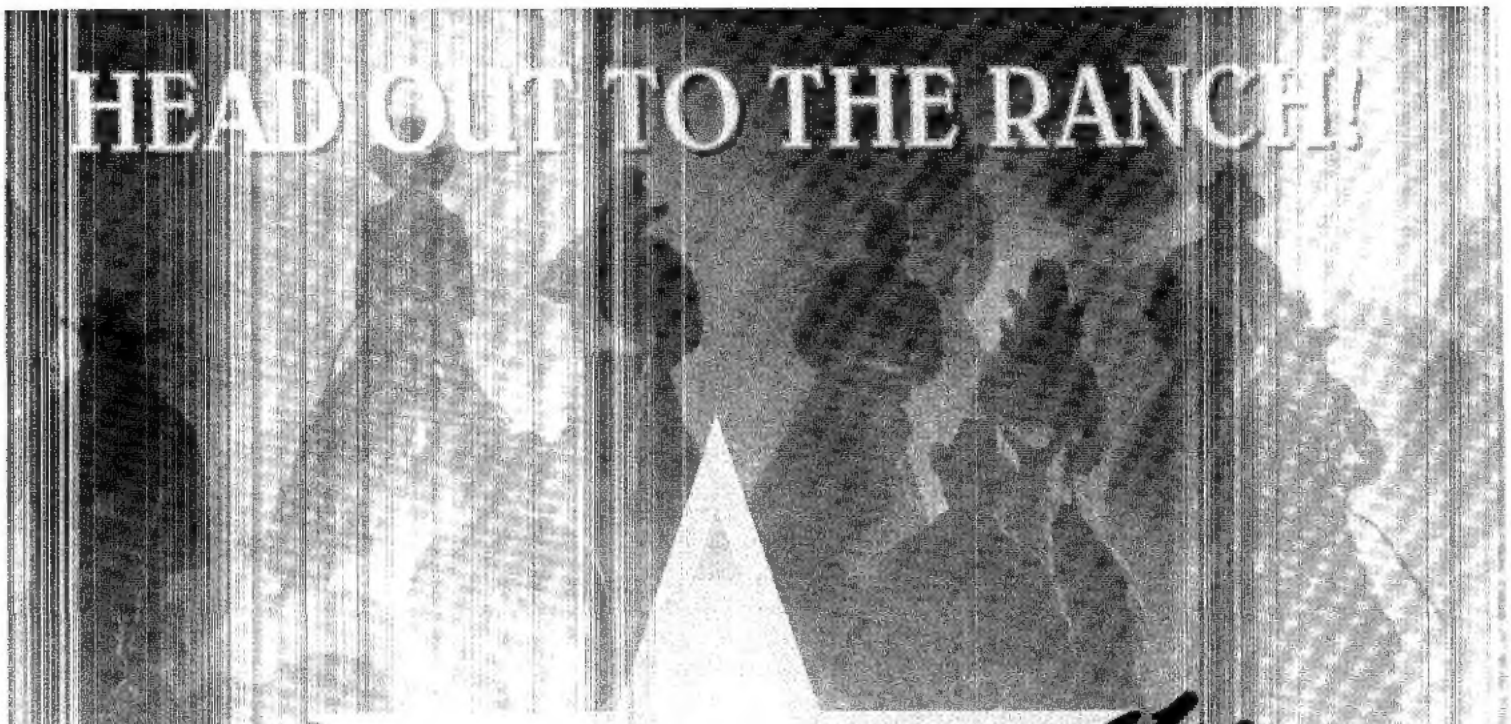

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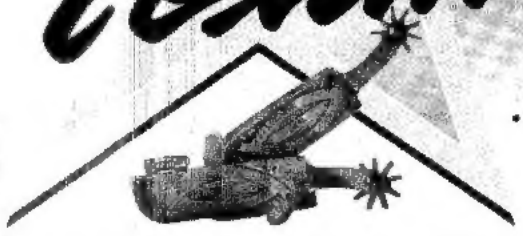

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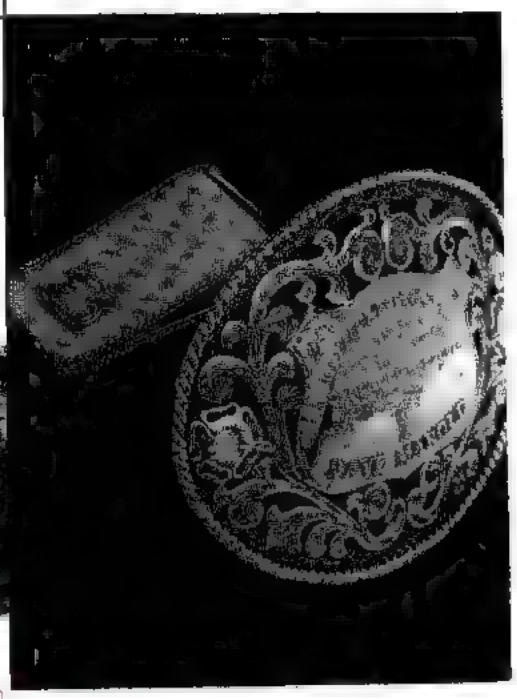


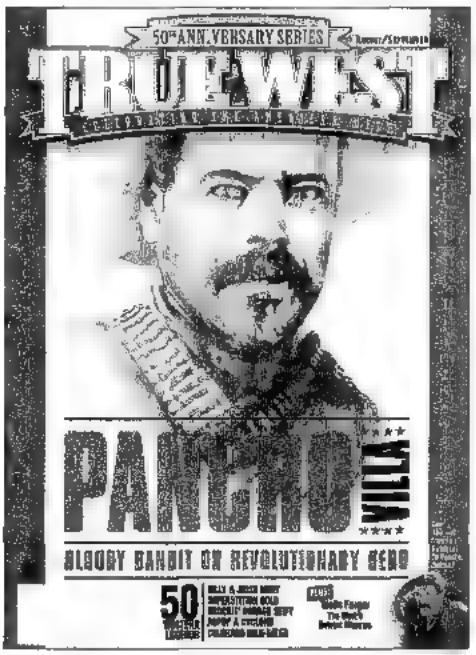
Six Feet Under

Half the distance to the truth.

As we were going to press on this issue, a front page story in *The New York Times* "alerted the nation to a bizarre and bold twist in one of the Old West's most intriguing mysteries," as our Special Projects Editor **Jana Bommersbach** so succinctly puts it (p. 42).

Simply put, the state of New Mexico wants to settle once and for all whether **Brushy Bill Roberts** was really **Billy the Kid**.

With e-mails and press reports coming in from all over the world, we knew this was a story we had to jump on. So, we ripped up our planned cover on **Pancho Villa** (right) and started from scratch . . . three days before deadline.



Pancho Villa cover before we pulled the plug.

BY BBB -

Rest assured, this is a story we were born to cover. Our very own contributing editor **Paul Andrew Hutton** is the official historian on the Billy Dig and we know and work with virtually all of the Billy scholars and buffs, including screenwriter **John Fusco** who probably gets more credit than anyone for reviving Brushy Bill from anonymity because of his clever *Young Guns II* plot twist.

For almost three decades, I have studied and kept abreast of all things Billy, and I dealt with the Brushy Bill story in the second edition of my 1992 book, *The Illustrated Life & Times of Billy the Kid*.

This is an ongoing investigation and we will keep you updated with the latest inside information as the story unfolds.

■ We have some incredible, original photos of Pancho Villa and the Mexican Revolution (p. 22-29). All thanks to **Chet** and **Lindy Downs** of the Mexican Heritage Collector's Calendar series in Jourdanton, Texas. Chet is a longtime collector of Mexican Revolution photographs and his calendars are collectibles. The photos are so great, I promised Lindy a blatant plug. So here it is: order your calendar at 830-769-4303.

■ Our 50th Anniversary celebration continues with **Johnny Boggs'** "50 Western Legends" (p. 31).

■ **Phil Spangenberger** launches his new gun column (p. 20), **Candy Moulton** hits the California Trail (p. 68) and **Corinne Brown** profiles author **Don Coldsmith** (p. 88).

■ With **Butch Cassidy** in Telluride (p. 48), **Charlie Russell** in Montana (p. 16) and **Buck Taylor** on paper (p. 60), we've got some good boots on the ground.

Old West Quote

"The world is generous with those who are only satisfied with trouble."
—J. EVETTS HALEY

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Wish You Were Here: Mexican Revolution postcard.

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For a behind-the-scenes look at running this magazine, check out BBB's daily journal at truewestmagazine.com

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Shooting Back

True West readers speak out

Ann Eliza Young.

Brigham Young's Wife

In her 1875 book, *Wife No. 19*, Ann Eliza Young provided a great deal of detail about the Mountain Meadows Massacre (April 2003). Ann was one of Brigham Young's wives who broke with the church. Her conclusion on the massacre was that while no direct link could be proved, Brigham Young certainly created and condoned the poisonous atmosphere that resulted in 120 deaths. Despite achueving fame as a lecturer and best-selling author, Ann Eliza Young later disappeared without a trace. I have often wondered if this was another example of Mormon justice.

DAN DIAMOND
INDEPENDENCE, MO

Wild Bull

I had the best belly laugh in years when I read Leo Banks' description of Wild Bill's "lace shorts" (April 2003, p. 43). It should read "lace shirts," although I suspect Hickok really wore dress shirts with pleated fronts, which were popular at the time.

JOSEPH ROSA
RUISLIP, MIDDLESEX, ENGLAND

Leo Banks responds: *I typed shorts instead of shirts. Rest assured, the style, color and contents of Wild Bill's underbritches are, thankfully, a mystery to me.*

Fact or Fiction

You should really think about hiring a historian or changing the name of your magazine (April 2003). Jesse James' birthday (Time Line, p. 21) is Sept. 27, 1847, according to *Frank and Jesse James* by Ted Yeatman. The Pony Express left from St. Joe, MO (p. 39); the mail left from St. Louis by rail to St. Joe. The reward on Jesse James was $10,000, not $5,000 (p. 43). Finally, the story that Hickok was killed while holding aces and eights (p. 43) is a myth.

DENNIS GARSTANG
WOLA AND NOLA MEMBER
ROLLA, MO

The date given for Jesse James' birth in Ted Yeatman's book is a typo. The correct date is Sept. 5, 1847, as we reported. Yes, the Pony Express did leave from St. Joseph, Missouri. There were several rewards of differing amounts on Jesse James, including $5,000 and $10,000. No one knows what poker hand Wild Bill Hickok was holding when he was murdered, although Deadwood's Adams Museum & House says it was the Ace of Clubs, the Ace of Diamonds, the Eight of Hearts, the Eight of Spades and the Queen of Hearts.

Doc Holliday's Grave?

Just finished reading *Doc Holliday: A Family Portrait* by Karen Holliday Tanner and on p. 221, it shows a modern-day headstone with a wrought iron fence around his grave. In the 2003 *True West* Travel Annual, it states on p. 65 that Doc Holliday is buried somewhere in the boneyard. Can you shed any light on this?

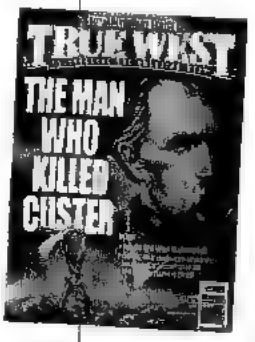
SAM COX
VIA THE INTERNET

Johnny D. Boggs responds: *The modern-day headstone with the wrought iron fence is located in the cemetery, but no one can say without dispute where Holliday is actually buried. The headstone isn't likely over his grave, but serves as a marker noting that Holliday is buried "somewhere" in the boneyard.*

Who Killed Custer?

A Canadian newspaper from the early '80s says Stands-In-Water was the warrior who shot down Custer. As I recall, Stands-In-Water's Canadian descendants related how White Bull faced Custer, who was holding two empty pistols. But Stands-In-Water shot Custer down by shooting him in the chest. If White Bull was a participant (May/June 2003), he must have simultaneously shot Custer in the head. The combined shootings would logically account for the two wounds that Custer had.

ALLAN M. TRUDEAU
TORONTO, ONTARIO



After being an interpretive ranger at the Little Bighorn Battlefield last summer, I can say that no one knows who killed George Armstrong Custer for sure or if he was even alive when the troops got to Last Stand Hill. Almost every Indian description of the battle mentions the smoke completely obliterating the soldier positions. The ledger drawings (p. 21) suggest this action took place during the Reno "retreat." The figure represented as Custer was not wearing buckskin trousers, a white hat or riding a blaze-face sorrel with stockings.

JIM HATZELL
RAPID CITY, SD

Marshall's Scatological Response

In your expert ATM column (May/June 2003), I take issue with Trimble's scatological studies. My sources tell me toilet paper was invented in modern times in 1857 but didn't get established as an industry until Thomas Edward and Clarence Scott marketed the product in Philadelphia. And why didn't you mention the old standby? In the West,

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Take the *True West* 50 Greatest Books Quiz at www.truewestmagazine.com

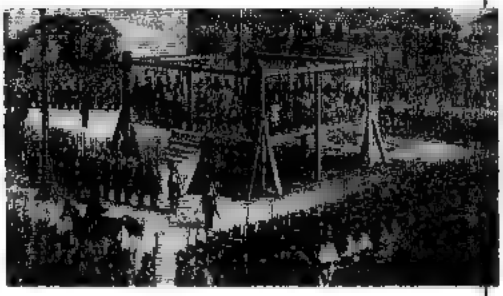
it was pages of Monkey Ward's catalog.

CLOYDE BROWN
FORT WORTH, TX

We prefer the Sears, Roebuck and Co. catalog.

America's Largest Mass Hanging

I enjoyed "If they're hungry, let them eat grass" (May/June 2003). What a fine article on one of the biggest bloodbaths of the Old West. Here was an event which to this day the staunch folk in Minnesota can never forget.



Years ago, I spoke to an old-timer who lived in Burnsville, Minnesota. I can yet remember the blood in his eye as he cursed Little Crow and swore he would meet him at trails' end and fill him full of lead. Old Jack was still a first-class fighting man despite his years. He also told me he has read *True West* since he was a little cowpoke

GEORGE DOC DIEZEL II
WOOD DALE, IL

Corrections

The brothel house parlor (p. 51, July 2003) is Etta Clark's, not Alice Abbott's.

We Welcome Your Comments

"Now let the letters roll in and bare your very soul. That is what has always kept us going and I think it always will." —Joe Small, True West founder.

Send your letters to Editor, PO Box 8008, Cave Creek, AZ 85327 Email. editor@truewestmagazine.com

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JULY

25-Aug. 3, Dodge City, KS, **Dodge City Days:** Dodge City's heritage comes to life through more than 50 events, including a concert, rodeo, crafts and BBQ cook-off. **Information:** 800-Old-West or www.dodgecitydays.com

AUGUST

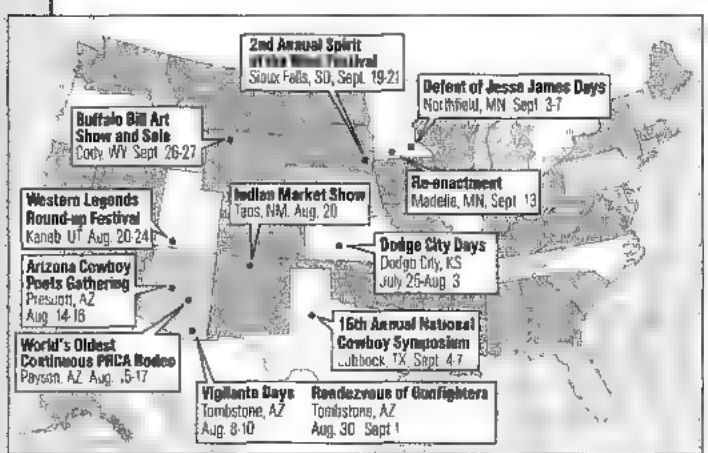
8-10, Tombstone, AZ, **Vigilante Days:** A 10K run, re-enactments, street entertainment, mock hangings and a chili cook-off help commemorate Tombstone's unique heritage. **Information:** 520-457-3197

9, Ruidoso Downs, NM, **John Wesley Hardin, the Dark Angel of Texas:** Lecture by Leon Metz, noted author, radio personality and Western historian's historian. The lecture series accompanies the Gunfighter exhibit at the Hubbard Museum of the American West. **Information:** 505-378-4142 or www.hubbardmuseum.com

9-10, Albuquerque, NM, **The Great Southwestern—5th Annual Antiques, Indian & Old West Show:** Over 150 dealers in antique Spanish Colonial and pre-1940 American Indian folk arts. **Information:** 505-255-4054 or www.cowboysandindiansmn.com

12-13, Santa Fe, NM, **12th Annual Antique Old West & Country Show:** Over 120 booths with every antique Western collectible you can imagine. Be sure to stay in town because from 16-17 is the **20th Annual Antique Ethnographic Art Show,** with booths on global tribal art, and from 19-20 is the **25th Annual Invitational Antique Art Show,** with booths on pre-1950 American Indian art. **Information:** 505-992-8929 or www.pueblopottery.com/whawk.htm

14-16, Prescott, AZ, **Arizona Cowboy Poets Gathering:** Poems, songs and stories of the Old West. Thursday evening starts with a concert by Don Edwards. **Information:** 928-445-3122 or www.sharlot.org



Submissions to Western Roundup are welcome. Please send all information and photos at least three months in advance to Western Roundup, P.O. Box 8008, Cave Creek, AZ 85327; Info@truewestmagazine.com or fax it to 480-575-1903.

JESSE JAMES EVENTS

September 3-7
Defeat of Jesse James Days
Northfield, MN

Raid re-enactments, PRCA rodeo, crafts, steak fry and music are just a small part of this living history celebration. **Information:** 507-645-9268 or www.defeatofjessejamesdays.org

September 13
Re-enactment
Madelia, MN

Relive the capture of the Younger brothers and the killing of Charlie Pitts. **Information:** 507-642-8053, 888-941-7283 or www.madeliamn.com

September 25-27
James-Younger Gang
10th Anniversary Conference
Sherman,TX

Special concert starring Michael Martin Murphey. **Information:** Donna Rose at dmrose@ix.netcom.com

15-17, Payson, AZ, **World's Oldest Continuous PRCA Rodeo:** Held since 1884 and named America's number one small outdoor rodeo. **Information:** 800-672-9766 or www.rimcountrychamber.com

20, Taos, NM, **Indian Market Show:** Four Corners Gallery in Taos features art sts Jimmy F. Calabaza and Ca'Win of Santa Domingo Pueblo, Native American jewelry and Santa Clara pottery. Artists will be in attendance 10-7 p.m. **Information:** 505-737-9909 or www.4cornersgallery.com

20-24, Kanab, UT, **Western Legends Round-up Festival:** Four days of Western and Native American art and culture. Riders in the Sky and Baxter Black perform on Friday and Saturday. **Information:** 800-733-5263 or www.westernlegendsroundup.com

22-24, Minden, NE, **Antique Airplane Association Fly-in:** A weekend of historic, and not so historic, aircraft at Harold Warp's Pioneer Village field. On the 23rd is the classic car and craft show, which takes place at the village's Courthouse Square. **Information:** 800-445-4447 or www.pioneervillage.com

23, Ruidoso Downs, NM, **Truth vs. Myth—The Lawman's Perspective:** Lecture by Jim Wilson, handgun editor for *Shooting Times* magazine. The lecture series accompanies the Gunfighter exhibit at the Hubbard Museum of the American West. **Information:** 505-378-4142 or www.hubbardmuseum.com

29-Sept. 1, Angel Fire, NM, **Living History Rendezvous:** Primitive camps, black powder shooting, period dress contests and parade. **Information:** 505-377-6661

30-Sept. 1, Tombstone, AZ, **Rendezvous of Gunfighters:** Gunfighter groups from across the U.S. gather in Tombstone. **Information:** 520-457-3548

SEPTEMBER

4-7, Lubbock, TX, **15th Annual National Cowboy Symposium:** Explore the traditions of the American Frontier and the Western way of life. Highlights include the American Cowboy Culture Awards Show, a chuck wagon cook-off and over 100 Western performers. **Information:** 806-795-2455

18-21, Morristown, MN, **Gunsmoke '03:** The Cedar Valley Vigilantes present the "SASS Minnesota State Championship." **Information:** 507-838-7334

19-21, Sioux Falls, SD, **2nd Annual Spirit of the West Festival:** Three days of Western singers, poets and cavalry re-enactments. **Information:** 605-334-9202 or www.spiritofthewestfestival.com

20, Ruidoso Downs, NM, **Billy the Kid:** Lecture by Herb Marsh, past president of the Lincoln County Historical Society. The lecture series accompanies the Gunfighter exhibit at the Hubbard Museum of the American West. **Information:** 505-378-4142 or www.hubbardmuseum.com

26-27, Cody, WY, **Buffalo Bill Art Show and Sale:** Over 100 contemporary artists exhibit their latest work. **Information:** 307-587-5002 or www.buffalobillartshow.com

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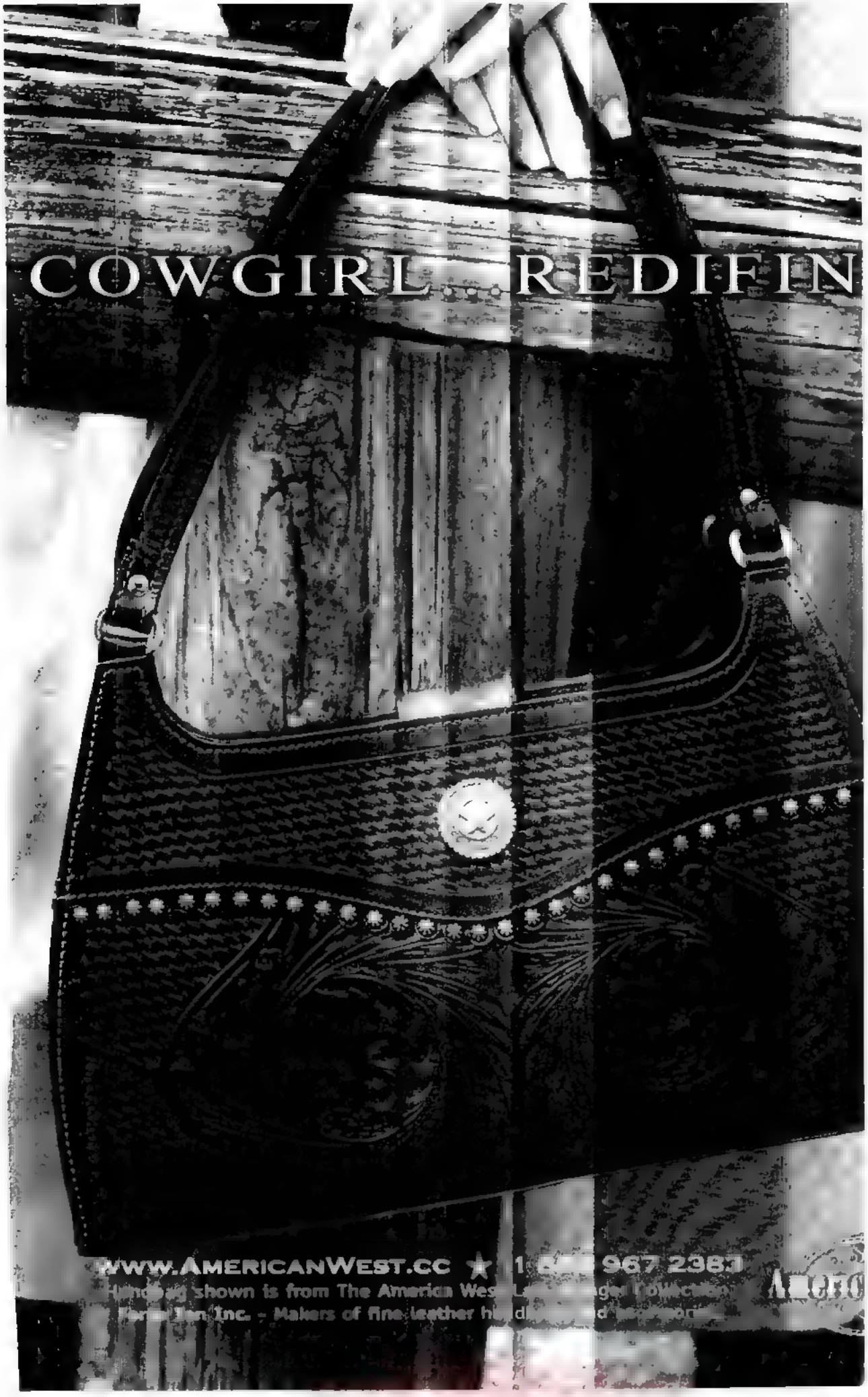
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BY ROSEMARY McKITTRICK

C.M. Russell Benefit Auction

Original Western art.

With a gift for storytelling and using paintbrushes, 15-year-old C.M. Russell arrived in Montana in 1880 and in stunning detail began to write about and paint the Western wilderness.

God gave him his talent, Russell said, and nature was his teacher. From dwelling with Indians to traveling on freight wagons and working as a horse wrangler, he lived the cowboy life inside out. Russell remained true to what he knew, creating hauntingly real work, yet offering a gentle view of an American paradise built on self-reliance.

As he watched the Old West disappear before his eyes, Russell achieved more recognition in his lifetime than he had ever hoped. In 1926, he learned he was dying. "Any time I cash in now, I win," he said. Russell died on October 24, 1926.

On March 19-22, the Great Falls Advertising Federation in Montana featured its benefit art auction for the C.M. Russell Museum in Great Falls. The sale totaled $1,533,455 and included a selection of Russell's art.

NOTABLE C.M. RUSSELL LOTS INCLUDED

(ALL IMAGES COURTESY GREAT FALLS ADVERTISING FEDERATION)

Illustrated letter to friend Bob; signed lower right; 11 by 8 1/2 inches; $46,000.

Recipient is Bob Benn of Kalispell, Montana. He and his wife Minnie were guests of Charlie and his wife Nancy at the Bullhead Lodge on Lake MacDonald, says Gail Renner, a Charlie Russell authenticator. Mentioned in the letter is Churchill Mehard, a young lawyer from Sewickley, Pennsylvania, and Philip R. Goodwin, an artist from New York. Russell tells Bob he'll be initiated into the Elks Club the next Monday. His illustration shows how initiates are warned by club members that they must ride a goat before winning their antlers. Renner suspects this letter was written in 1908 not only because Russell was initiated into the Elks in 1908, but also because the previous summer, the Benns and the Goodwins were guests at the lodge.

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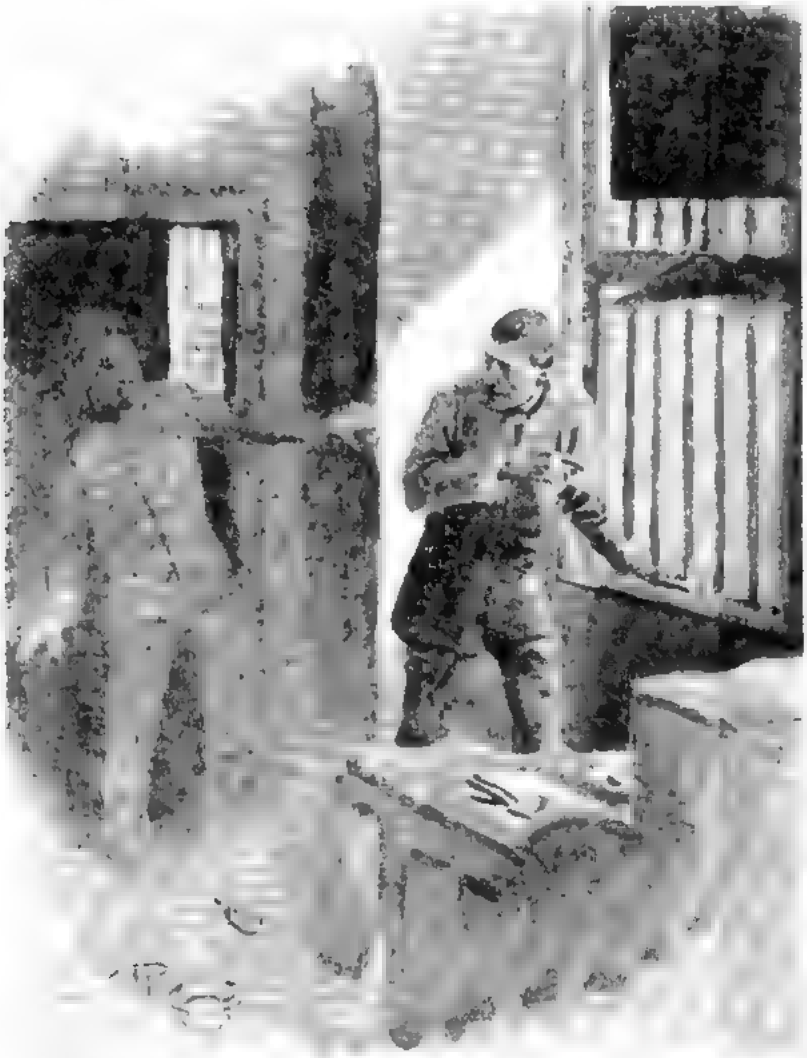
Watercolor; greeting card; signed lower right; 3 by 5 inches; $20,000. Most Christmases, Russell sent greeting cards to his friends and family. Greeting cards sent near the end of his life, such as this one, are more valuable because he was a noted artist by then, says Inez Wolins, director of the Charlie Russell Museum.

Watercolor; **Driving Cattle in the Rain;** *signed lower left; 14 by 11 inches; $52,500. Russell painted this watercolor around 1891.*



Gouache; **I Even Considered Sawing a Bar in the Library Window;** *appears in* **Lone Bandit,** *an autobiography by Bill Carlisle, signed lower right; 12 ½ by 9 ½ inches; $10,500.* **Lone Bandit** *was published by Trail's End Publishing Co. of Pasadena, California, in 1946, and includes a chapter on Carlisle meeting Russell during Carlisle's cowboy days, before he became a train robber.*

Upcoming Auctions

August 16-17
American Indian artifacts
Allard Auction
www.allardauctions.com

August 23
Indian Market Last Call Auction
Contemporary and Historical Western Art
Altermann Galleries
www.altermann.com

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BY CRAIG HAMILTON

The Happy Coyote

Warms a good-humored cowboy's heart.

Coyotes and wild dogs become a cowboy's worst enemy when baby calves start hitting the ground. And in my younger years, I took a workman's attitude toward keeping the balance right in both regards, which meant a rifle was as much a part of my tool kit as a pair of chaps or fencing pliers.

– BBB ILLUSTRATION –

I wasn't the kind of cowboy who yanked out his Winchester and started blasting away the countryside every time I saw an old coyote or dog. Nope, when I pulled a trigger, something almost always bit the dust.

One snowy January day, I was driving down Highway 93 toward Kingman, Arizona, with my scoped Remington .22-250 varmint rifle lying on the seat next to me.

Even though I was miles from the ranch headquarters, I was still traveling through our ranch. And as long as I was within our boundaries, I was still on the job.

A lone coyote trotted across a vacant, snow-covered gravel pit I was driving past and I instantly went on point. I geared down, pulled my truck off the road in a low spot, grabbed my rifle and trotted across the highway.

Crouching down, I slithered under a fence and belly crawled to a bank where I figured he'd be right in front of me. Sure enough, my instincts were dead-on.

Looking through my rifle scope, I saw him trotting along about 100 yards away—he was duck soup.

When I slipped off the safety, my crosshairs were as steady as if they were welded to that coyote's hide. I applied about a pound of pressure on the trigger. One more ounce and it would be curtains for Mr. Coyote.

Then, the darndest thing happened. That silly beggar had been trotting with his nose to the ground like coyotes do, when he suddenly changed his disposition. His tail came up, his ears perked and I swear he got the biggest grin I ever saw on man or beast. Then he tucked in his tail and lit out for a large gravel pile.

Being a curious creature myself, I softened the trigger-pull a hair and watched to see what this goofy fellow had in mind.

Atop the snow-covered pile of gravel, the coyote started throwing snow every which way, then flipped around and raced down as fast as he had gone up. Meanwhile, I lay there with a round in the chamber, watching him through my scope. I believed it was my job to protect the calves, but as I watched that oblivious fur ball blasting up that gravel pile and racing down just to chase his tail, something turned over inside of me.

I tipped back my hat, opened the bolt and put the shell in my pocket.

You see, cowboys must have a sense of humor in order to deal with the hard things they do, and I often found my amusement where I could. It struck me then that this silly coyote was havin' the time of his life. It don't snow much in my country and this batch was probably the first white stuff that little desert dog ever saw.

I drove away without disturbing the coyote's wintertime frolic. Now I know some folks who read this may wonder: I thought shootin' coyotes was part of a cowboy's job?

Yeah it was, and it sure may be again, but on that day I realized some things are worth leaving alone. I guess you can say that round was on me.

Craig

Visit craighamiltonhorsemanship.com.

"Horse sense is the thing a horse has which keeps it from betting on people."

- W.C. Fields

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BY PHIL SPANGENBERGER

Spangenberger's Gun Shop

Guns and gear of the reel West.

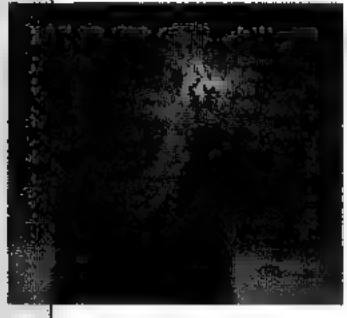
Through the years, I've often been asked if I'm related to G.F. Spangenberg, owner of the famed 1880s Spangenberg's Gun Shop in Tombstone, Arizona Territory, or if I'm the owner of—or involved in any way with—the recreated business by that name, now operating in Tombstone. While the names are similar, they are slightly different. You'll notice from my byline that my name has "er" at the end. Of course it would be fun to claim such a noted Old West figure as an ancestor, but alas, I cannot, nor do I have any business relationship with the present establishment.

However, I now have my own gun shop . . . and you're in it! Starting with this issue, I'll share interesting information on the guns and related gear from the historical West, as well as from the mythical frontier of motion pictures and television.

We at *True West* are excited about my new column and feel we have lots to share with fellow Old West enthusiasts. So stop in each issue, and feel free to browse around. We look forward to visiting with you.

TV Magic near the O.K. Corral

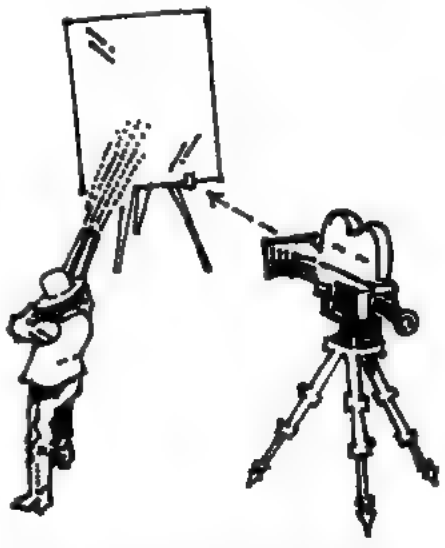
True West has received a number of queries regarding the episode on the Discovery Channel's *Unsolved History* where the infamous gunfight near the O.K. Corral was analyzed using modern forensics and police investigative techniques. Working with Termite Art Productions, who produced the show, I helped supply the re-enactors with horses and authentic 1880s saddlery, and assisted with the firearms experiments. Most everyone is fascinated by the slow motion footage in that installment, where series' firearms consultant Garry James fired a double-barrel sidehammer shotgun and a .45 Colt revolver straight into the camera—with live ammunition! Here's how this TV magic was accomplished.



Garry James takes aim with a double-barrel sidehammer shotgun. Find out how Hollywood did it.

COURTESY *UNSOLVED HISTORY*

To capture these stunning shots, Director Robert Wise brought in an ultra-high-speed camera and video-monitor unit, featuring state-of-the-art technology. On the firing range, Garry James was positioned to shoot away from the camera into a mirror that had been placed on a stand several yards in front of him. The camera was set at an angle in a safe position to the side of James, with its lens focused on the mirror. This setup gave the visual impression that James was firing directly into the lens, rather than away from it. James' shooting was synchronized with the camera and the various shots were taken at 2,000 frames per second. When the tapes were played back at a much slower speed, the images of the projectiles hurtling toward the camera were visible to the human eye. It's really quite simple . . . so long as you have thousands of dollars to spend and 21st-century technology to capture the action. As the old saying goes, it's all done with mirrors!



Mirror Tricks: Garry James shot into a mirror, while Director Robert Wise aimed his ultra-high-speed camera at an angle to make it seem as if James had shot directly into the camera's lens. Yes, the shot destroyed the mirror.

BBB ILLUSTRATION –

Phil Spangenberger writes for *Guns & Ammo* and is a character actor and Hollywood gun coach.

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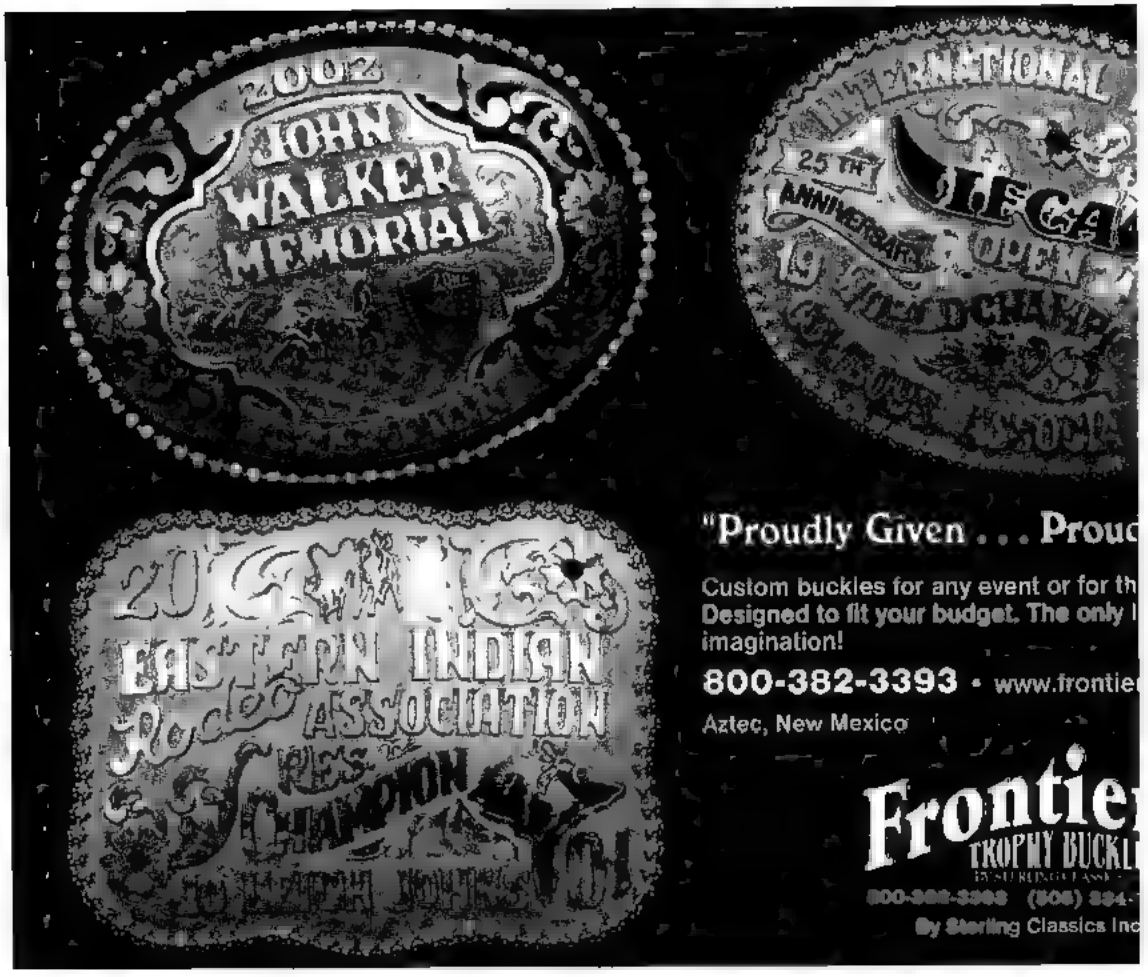
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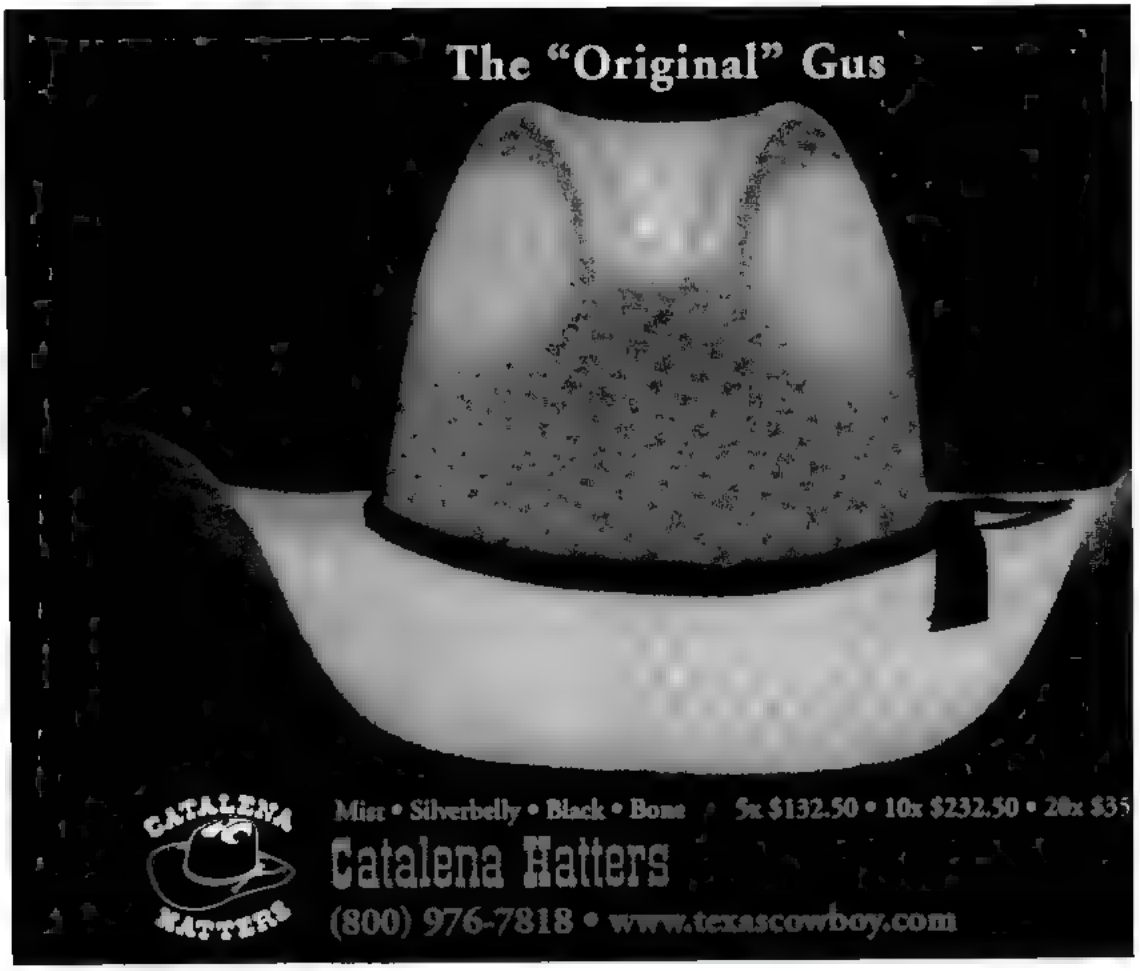
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BY NEIL CARMONY

A GENERAL NAMED DOROTHY

50 things you need to know about Pancho Villa

Even if you don't know exactly who he was, or precisely what he did, you know the name Pancho Villa. He was the most famous Mexican of the Old West.

But was he a hero of the people or a ruthless outlaw?

Actually, he was both. And a ladies' man to boot. Here are essentials everyone should know about a general named Dorothy.

■ Pancho Villa's real name was Doroteo Arango. In Spanish, Doroteo is a masculine form of Dorothy. Doroteo adopted the name Francisco Villa after his grandfather, Jesus Villa. (Pancho's father Agustin Arango was the illegitimate son of Villa.) Men whose first name is Francisco are also nicknamed Pancho.

■ He was born in 1878, at the Rancho de la Coyotada (one of the largest haciendas in Durango; owned by the Lopez Negrete family). He and his family lived the impoverished life of peons.

At 22, Pancho was a desperado, earning his nickname as the "Mexican Robin Hood."

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■ In his memoirs, Pancho said that at the age of 16 he shot Don Augustin Lopez Negrete, the master of the hacienda, who had reportedly raped Pancho's sister. As the story goes, after wounding his sister's attacker, Pancho fled to the hills and turned rustler and bandit, taking a heavy toll on the herds of the great *ranchos*.

■ U.S. Intelligence Agent John Biddle reported that the county sheriff had eloped with Pancho's sister and that Pancho made him dig his own grave before shooting the sheriff and rolling him into it. The report is dated June 12, 1914—20 years after the fact. Whether you believe Pancho's memoirs or Biddle's report is up to you.

■ Pancho was caught twice by the authorities for shooting Negrete, but escaped jail both times. To throw off his pursuers, he adopted the name Francisco Villa.

■ Some writers have declared that Villa was illiterate. Although he had little education, he could read and write well enough to function as a military leader.

■ While pursuing the life of a desperado, Pancho reportedly stole from only the rich (the poor, of course, had nothing worth stealing).

■ In 1910, Pancho, now a renowned bandit chieftain, joined the Mexican Revolution. His humble origins made him beloved by poverty-stricken villagers, among whom he recruited his army.

BUILDING THE AMERICAN WEST

1901
U.S. sugar sells for 4¢ per pound, eggs for 14¢ per dozen and butter 25¢ per pound. Boardinghouses offer turkey dinner for 20¢ and breakfast and supper for 15¢.

January 22, 1901
Queen Victoria dies after reigning nearly 64 years.

February 20, 1901
Butch Cassidy, the Sundance Kid and Ethel (a.k.a. Etta) Place sail from New York for Argentina.

1905 Painting of McKinley's assassination by T. Dart Walker.

July 10, 1901
Cole and James Younger are paroled after 25 years in the Stillwater prison.

September 6, 1901
Anarchist Leon Czolgosz shoots President McKinley, at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo New York. The President dies eight days later.

October 24, 1901
Anna Edson Taylor of Bay City, Michigan, successfully goes over Niagara Falls in a barrel (She was reportedly 63 years old at the time.)

Anna Taylor with her barrel.

■ Known as *soldaderas* (women soldiers), the wives of Villa's fighters traveled with the troops, cooked for them and cared for the wounded.

■ Villa grandly called his soldiers *Los Dorados*—the Golden Ones.

■ In 1912, Gen. Victoriano Huerta jailed Villa in Mexico City. Villa escaped on Christmas Day and eventually made his way to El Paso, Texas, then a safe haven for Mexican revolutionaries seeking asylum.

■ One of Pancho's favorite spots in El Paso was the Elite Confectionery. A famous photograph (above) shows Villa and his compadres eating ice cream at the Elite.

■ As a counteroffensive to Huerta's regime, the military commanders of Chihuahua and Durango elected Villa

Continued on page 26

1901-1920

1902
French fashion designer Charles R. Debevoise invents the brassiere. Barnum's Animals (Barnum's Animal Crackers after 1948) are first produced.

October 24, 1902
On trial in Cheyenne, Wyoming, Tom Horn is convicted of killing 14-year-old Willie Nickell.

Calamity Jane dies.

November 18, 1902
The Washington *Evening Star* runs a cartoon about President "Teddy" Roosevelt refusing to kill a female bear during a hunt, prompting a couple in Brooklyn, New York, to begin making a brown stuffed animal, dubbed a Teddy Bear

1903
Edwin S. Porter's *The Great Train Robbery* is released.

May 23-July 26, 1903
The Winton Touring Car, the first automobile to drive from San Francisco to the East Coast, reaches New York City.

Orville Wright slips the surly bonds of Earth.

August 1, 1903
Calamity Jane dies in Terry, South Dakota.

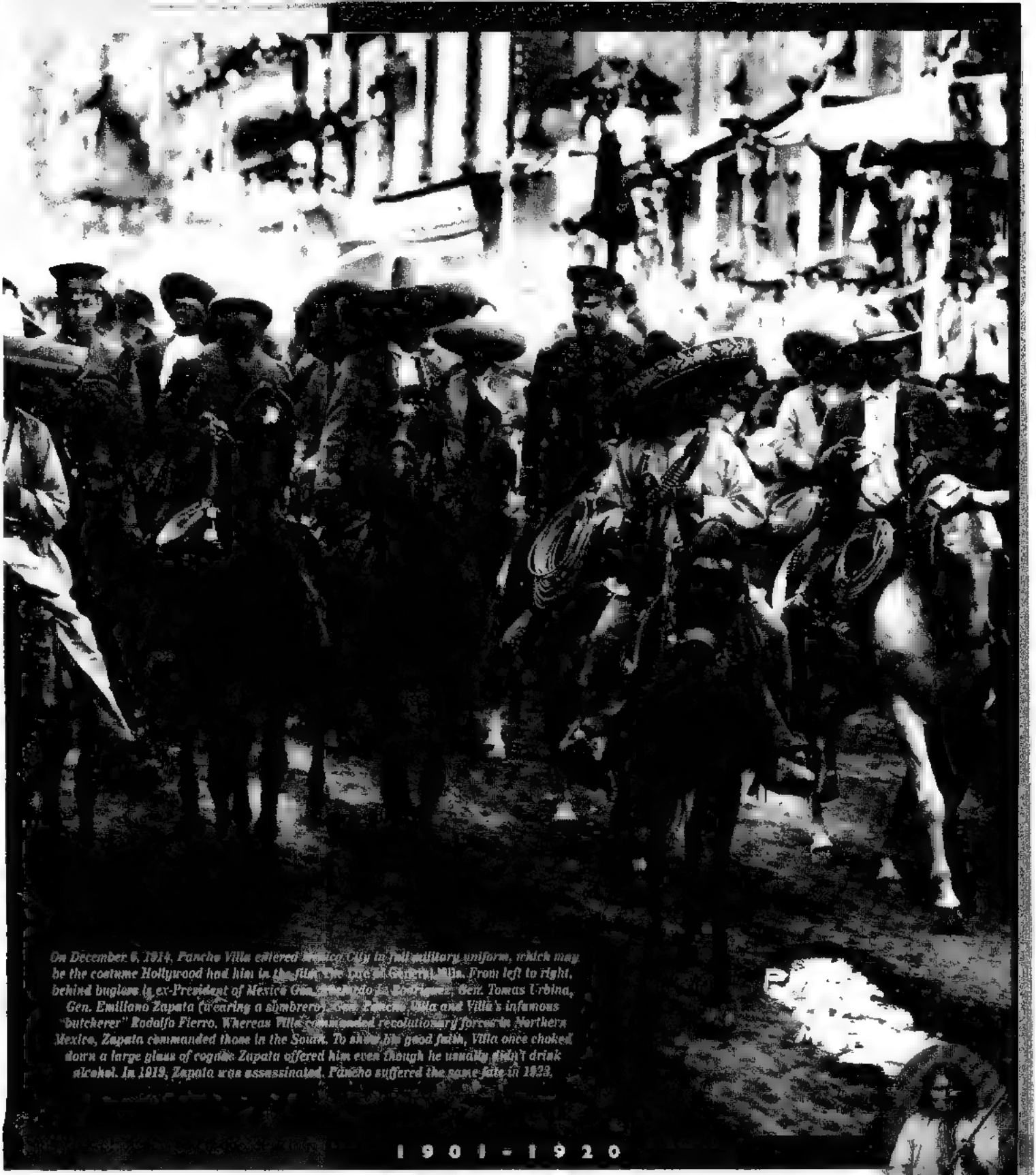
November 20, 1903
Tom Horn is hanged.

December 17, 1903
Orville Wright makes the first successful flight in a mechanically propelled airplane in Kill Devil Hills near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

EXHIBITED

Dressed in typical battle attire, Villa wears two crisscrossed bandoleers over his military blouse.

Fork-wielding Mary Mallon. Target: health official Dr. Soper.



On December 6, 1914, Pancho Villa entered Mexico City in full military uniform, which may be the costume Hollywood had him in the film "The Life of General Villa." From left to right, behind buglers is ex-President of Mexico Gen. Eulalio Gutiérrez, Gen. Tomas Urbina, Gen. Emiliano Zapata (wearing a sombrero), Gen. Pancho Villa and Villa's infamous "butcherer" Rodolfo Fierro. Whereas Villa commanded revolutionary forces in Northern Mexico, Zapata commanded those in the South. To show his good faith, Villa once choked down a large glass of cognac Zapata offered him even though he usually didn't drink alcohol. In 1919, Zapata was assassinated. Pancho suffered the same fate in 1923.

1901-1920

November 21, 1904
In Paris, France, motor-powered omnibuses replace horse-drawn carriages.

March 1, 1905
Milner Dam begins operation, providing water to Southern Idaho farmers. Nearby Twin Falls becomes an overnight boomtown. The project is a showcase for the Carey Act.

April 18-20, 1906
San Francisco earthquake and resulting fire kill about 3,000 people and destroy $500 million in property

1907
New York cook Mary Mallon becomes known as Typhoid Mary after the source of a typhoid epidemic is traced to her

May 26, 1907
Future movie idol John Wayne is born Marion Morrison in Winterset, Iowa.

1908
First Mother's Day is observed.

February 29, 1908
Pat Garrett is murdered near Las Cruces, New Mexico. Although Wayne Brazel, a 21-year-old cowboy, confessed to the killings, some historians believe the deed was done by hired assassin Jim Miller.

October 1, 1908
Henry Ford launches his Model T automobile, priced at $850.

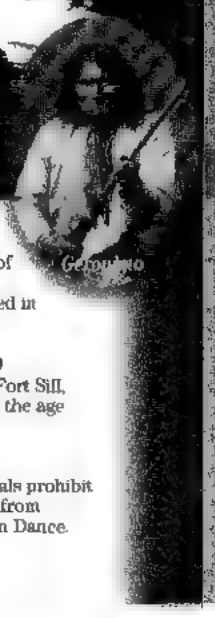
November 4, 1908
Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid rob the Aramayo, Francke & Co payroll in Southern Bolivia.

November 6, 1908
Trapped by a posse in San Vicente in the Bolivian Andes, Butch Cassidy supposedly shoots the Sundance Kid then kills himself

1909
The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is founded in New York City.

February 17, 1909
Geronimo dies at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, around the age of 80.

1910
Government officials prohibit the Plains Indians from performing the Sun Dance.



Villa wearing his pearl-handled Bisley Model single-action Colt.

– Courtesy Lee Silva; Greg and Jennifer Silva Memorial Old West Archives –

on September 26, 1913, to command a formidable army known as the Division del Norte (later called the Villistas) and attack government-controlled Torreon. After Villa captured Torreon, Ciudad Juarez and Tierra Blanca, he was elected military governor of Chihuahua.

■ In 1914, the left-wing American journalist John Reed (the subject of the 1981 movie *Reds*, starring Warren Beatty) traveled with Villa's army and came to admire the general. Reed's book *Insurgent Mexico* was based on his experiences with Villa and his men.

■ John Reed dubbed Villa the "Mexican Robin Hood." Villa also acquired the nickname "Lion of the North."

■ As military governor of Chihuahua, Villa was generous to the poor. He used stolen money to help widows and orphans, build schools, fund pensions, electrify the city and care for soldiers' families

■ Four months after he was elected governor, Villa resigned and appointed Manuel Chao.

■ Villa was a notorious womanizer and in his heyday had a "wife" in towns across Northern Mexico. His first wife Luz Corral said in her memoirs: "for a housewife, the love affairs of her husband should be of no importance as long as the wife is loved and respected in her home, which is her sanctuary."

■ Noting that Villa neither smoked nor drank, an American journalist once asked the general if he had any redeeming vices. "Women," replied the Lion of the North, "I am a son of a bitch when it comes to women."

■ Villa's military success and popularity with the Mexican peasantry peaked in 1914, the same year the silent film *The Life of General Villa* was released. Hollywood bankrolled Pancho's army in exchange for being allowed to film him in battle, which is the premise of the upcoming HBO movie *And Starring Pancho Villa as Himself*. (See *Westerns*, p. 56.)

■ Pancho usually carried a Colt single-action army revolver, although he has been photographed wearing a Colt Bisley (see photo at left.)

■ Pancho's favorite rifle was a Winchester Model 1895.

■ Pancho Villa loved to be photographed—more photos were taken of the charismatic general than of any other field commander during the Mexican Revolution.

■ Villa's official photographer was an American from El Paso named Otis Aultman, who Villa nicknamed the "Banty Rooster." The gringo traveled with the general to document his triumphs.

■ Villa's speech was peppered with unprintable phrases. In spite of this, or maybe because of it, Villa became a favorite with the American press.

BUILDING THE AMERICAN WEST

February 8, 1910
Boy Scouts of America founded.

October 1, 1910
Bonnie Parker (of Bonnie & Clyde) is born in Rowena, Texas.

November 8, 1910
Iowa schoolteacher Jessie Shambaugh starts the first 4-H Club. (The 4-H's stand for Heads, Hands, Heart and Health.)

February 10, 1911
Zerelda James, Frank and Jesse's mother, passes away at age 86.

May 15, 1911
The U.S. Supreme Court breaks up John D. Rockefeller's Standard Oil Company.

Sept. 17-Nov. 5, 1911
C.P. Rodgers makes the first successful transcontinental airplane flight, going from New York to Pasadena, California (total air time: 82 hours, four minutes).

Sauk Indian Jim Thorpe.

1912
Zane Grey's *Riders of the Purple Sage* is published. The first Girl Scout troop is established by Juliette Gordon Low of Savannah, Georgia. Sauk Indian Jim Thorpe wins medals at the Olympic Games in Stockholm, Sweden.

March 13, 1912
Ben Kilpatrick—the last active member of the Wild Bunch—is bludgeoned to death by a Wells Fargo messenger during a failed train holdup near Sanderson, Texas. (Elzy Lay lives on 1934, Matt Warner until 1938, Walt Puteney until 1950. Last to die was Kilpatrick's girlfriend, Laura Bullion in 1961.)

April 14, 1912
The passenger liner *Titanic* sinks o its maiden voyage after striking an iceberg in the North Atlantic.

1913
The "Buffalo Head" nickel is introduced. Indian Jim Thorpe is stripped of his Olympic medals because he played semi-profession

■ Villa could be brutal as a commander and often sent prisoners to the firing squad.

■ In April 1915, forces under the command of Gen. Alvaro Obregon (chief military commander under Carranza, the Constitutionalist governor of Coahuila) decisively defeated Villa's army at Celaya. The Villistas never regained their importance as a fighting force.

■ On October 19, 1915, the Wilson administration recognized the regime of Venustiano Carranza as the lawful government of Mexico. Carranza and Villa were bitter enemies, so Wilson's decision enraged Villa, who vowed to punish the Americans.

■ On March 9, 1916, some 485 Villistas raided Columbus, New Mexico, and the small army post on the outskirts of town. During the fracas, 18 Americans and over 100 Mexicans were killed. The raid began about 4 a.m., while it was still dark, and was over in about two hours.

■ Several townspeople swore they recognized Villa among the men who terrorized Columbus, however, a captured Villista later wrote that the general stayed behind with a rear guard and did not enter the town with his raiders.

■ Following the 1916 raid on Columbus, U.S. Army officials hired Japanese agents, who were either servants of Villa's brother Hipolito or Villa's wife Luz Corral de Villa, to assassinate the general by poisoning his coffee. The plot failed.

■ It was rumored that before his attack on the U.S., Villa was in contact with his former munitions buyer Felix Sommerfeld, who had joined the German Secret Service in 1915. The Kaiser hoped a war between Mexico and the U.S. would keep America out of the war in Europe.

■ Because of Villa's raid, the U.S. Army brought eight of its 13 airplanes to Columbus, making it the first wartime U.S. air base.

■ The American military incursion into Mexico (organized to kill or capture Villa) lasted about 10 months. Although a few skirmishes were fought, Villa escaped Gen. John Pershing's nearly 10,000-man force unscathed.

■ One of the officers involved in the 1916 American expedition into Mexico was Lt. George S. Patton, Jr.

■ After the close of the open warfare phase of the Mexican Revolution in 1920, the Mexican government awarded Villa a large hacienda with 50 men for protection, land for his soldiers and a military pension for all. The former peon became a wealthy man.

■ On July 20, 1923, Pancho was driving an open-top Dodge touring car near Parral, Chihuahua, when he was gunned down by his political enemies in Bonnie and Clyde style. Pancho was 45 years old.

■ After Pancho's death, his first of several wives, Senora Luz Corral, reportedly kept a holstered revolver in plain sight in her Chihuahua City home, the Quinta Luz. Visitors to the residence often inquired about the gun. Luz told them it had been Pancho's and would ask if the visitor wanted to buy it.

The Feminine Brigade in Mexico City. After the Mexican Revolution, soldaderas were reduced to a legend in one corrido (folk song) that refers to Adelita, who followed the troops in battle because she was madly in love with her sergeant. Some other corridos about soldaderas also distorted the true roles these courageous women played.

1901-1920

baseball. (In 1982, Thorpe regained his standing as a two-time Olympic gold medalist 30 years after his death.)

April 29, 1913
Gideon Sundback patents his separable fastener, better known as the zipper.

January 5, 1914
Ford Motor Company raises the minimum wage from $2.40 for a nine-hour day to $5 for an eight-hour day.

March 18, 1914
Joe Small, founder of *True West* magazine, is born.

June 28, 1914
In Sarajevo, Bosnia, Austria's Archduke Ferdinand is assassinated, plunging Europe into the Great War (a.k.a. WWI).

August 15, 1914
Panama Canal officially opens.

February 8, 1915
D.W. Griffith's film *Birth of a Nation* premieres in Los Angeles. The movie introduces the close-up, the panoramic shot, the flashback and the use of a moving camera.

February 18, 1915
Frank James dies at home in Missouri.

April 22, 1915
German soldiers unleash a new weapon: poison gas.

Titanic sinks on maiden voyage.

True West founder.

Austria's Archduke and his wife.

ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

When the caller left with his prize, she'd get another gun out of a drawer and put it in the holster. A local gunsmith kept her supplied with revolvers, and she made good money selling them.

■ For many years, Luz Corral kept her dead husband's bullet-ridden Dodge car at her home in Chihuahua City. Tourists came from afar to view the grisly auto. She died in 1981.

■ The Villa home in Chihuahua City is a museum, now owned by the Mexican Army and is called the *Museo de la Revolucion* (Museum of the Revolution). This 50-room mansion is filled with Pancho Villa's mementos and furniture.

■ A 1932 rumor circulated that Pancho's grave had been opened and his head stolen. Reportedly, phrenologists (crackpot "scientists" who studied the bumps on skulls) at the University of Chicago paid $10,000 for it.

■ In the late 1980s, stories about Pancho's skull again surfaced, this time in regard to President George Bush's old fraternity at Yale: the Skull and Bones Society. Pancho's skull was thought to be a treasured relic used in the Society's secret ceremonies. Spokesmen for Skull and Bones denied possessing the artifact.

■ The 1934 hit Hollywood film *Viva Villa!* starring Wallace Beery was loosely based on Pancho's exploits as a military leader.

■ The Mexican Government presented Tucson, Arizona, with a 14-foot bronze statue of Pancho Villa astride a rearing horse, which was erected in 1981. There was some dismay but more amusement at the irony of the gift, which, after much discussion, was accepted. The statue stands in downtown Tucson.

■ For several years after the statue of Villa was erected in Tucson, every March 9 an outraged citizen placed small white crosses at the base of the monument in recognition of the Americans killed by Villa's forces during the Columbus, New Mexico, raid.

Gen. Francisco "Pancho" Villa with his first wife, Luz Corral de Villa. After Pancho's death, Senora Luz Corral turned the mansion she had shared with him into a museum.

– True West Archives

■ Although a statue of Gen. Villa stands proudly in Tucson, there is no statue of Gen. John "Black Jack" Pershing on display in Mexico.

■ In 1983, Willie Nelson recorded a song titled "Pancho & Lefty." Of course, the "Pancho" was Pancho Villa.

■ Pancho Villa remains a hero in Mexico, particularly among the poor. But among some Chihuahuan descendants of aristocratic land owners, he is regarded as a ruthless outlaw.

■ Ironically, Pancho Villa is the biggest asset the little town of Columbus, New Mexico, has today. Tourists come to see the place where a foreign army attacked the United States, which brings the town much-needed dollars. Pancho Villa State Park provides camping sites and interpretive displays. A grease rack used to lubricate U.S. Army vehicles during the punitive incursion into Mexico is proudly featured.

■ With a state park named for Pancho Villa in New Mexico and a majestic statue of the Lion of the North in Arizona, the Mexican bandit-general continues to make his presence felt north of the border.

Tucson native **Neil Carmony** has written about the Southwest for 20 years and is co-editor of *Tough Times in Rough Places*.

After a lookout cried "Viva Villa," assassins on horseback fired nine bullets into Villa, killing him instantly.

BUILDING THE AMERICAN WEST

Lusitania.

May 7, 1915
German submarine sinks the British passenger liner *Lusitania*, killing 128 Americans.

March 9, 1916
Mexican troops led by Pancho Villa raid Columbus, New Mexico. Later in the year, American soldiers commanded by Gen. John J. Pershing invade Mexico in pursuit of Pancho Villa.

1917
"Ma" Ferguson of Texas is the nation's first elected female governor, but the second to be inaugurated after Wyoming's Nellie T. Ross.

February 1, 1917
Arizona's Papago Indian Reservation becomes the last reservation established by executive order.

January 10, 1917
Buffalo Bill Cody dies in Denver, Colorado at age 70.

April 6, 1917
U.S. declares war on Germany, officially entering WW I.

November 11, 1918
WW I ends with the surrender of Germany and her allies. That year an influenza epidemic erupted, eventually killing about 20 million people worldwide.

Gen. Smedley Butler hacks away for prohibition in Philadelphia.

1919
Rotary dial telephones are introduced.

January 16, 1919
The 18th Amendment becomes law: prohibition begins.

February 26, 1919
The Grand Canyon is set aside as a national park.

1901–1920

The National Woman's Party celebrates the right to vote.

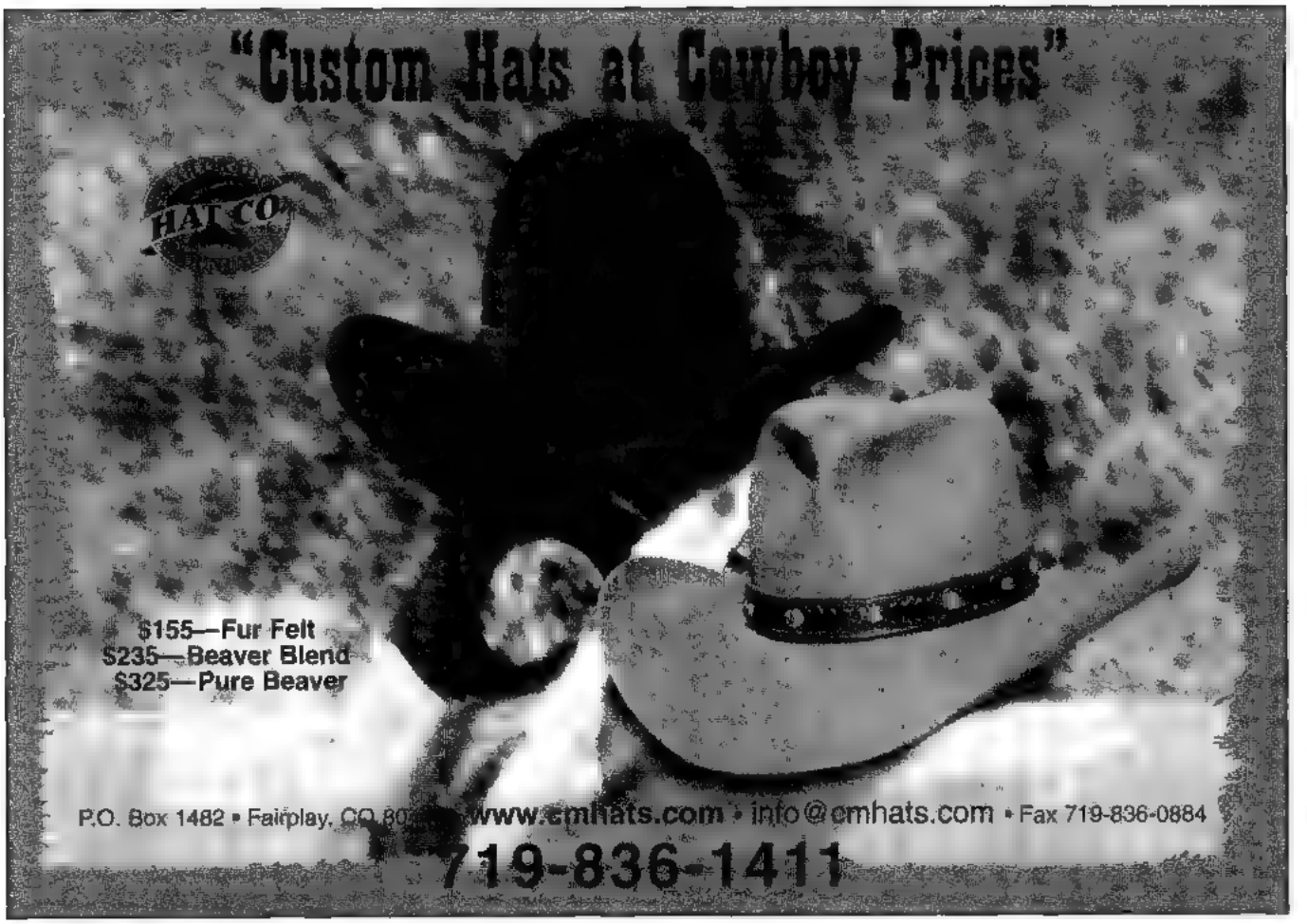
May 8-27, 1919
U.S. Navy seaplane makes the first transatlantic flight, from Rockaway, New York to Lisbon, Portugal

August 18, 1920
The 19th Amendment is ratified, allowing women to vote

August 20, 1920
First licensed radio broadcast.

Gen. Pancho Villa rides alongside his son Agustin in Canutillo, Durango. Note Villa's saddle horn, which is a likeness of himself. A saddle similar to Villa's (at left) is currently owned by collector Morton Fleischer.

– Saddle photo by BBB –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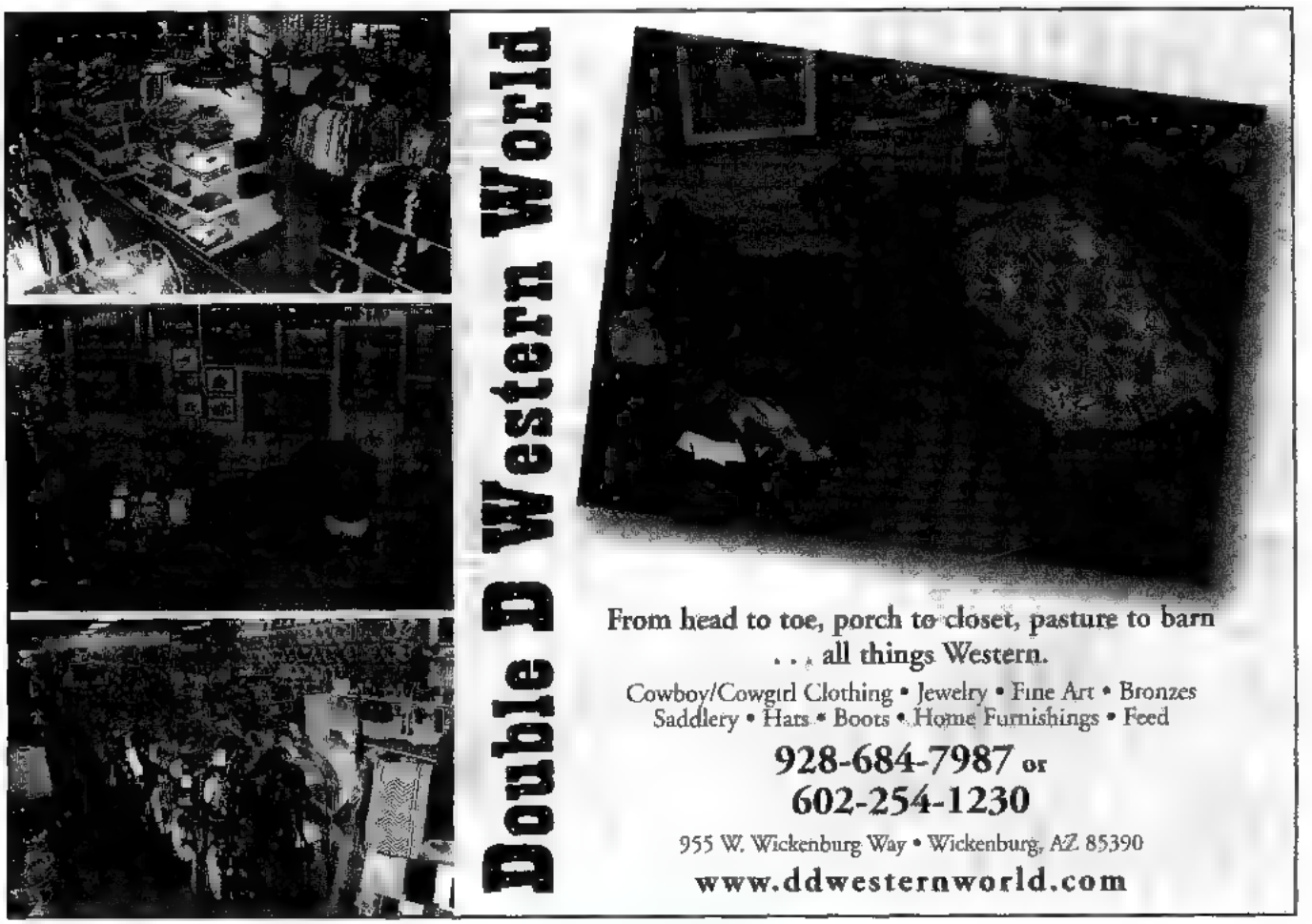
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BY JOHNNY D. BOGGS

True West's Wild West Show presents

Where myth and fact diverge.

"This is the West, sir. When the legend becomes fact, print the legend."

We won't argue with those words, spoken in the closing minutes of *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance.* The Old West is full of legends (such as Chuck Connors above) and myths, some with shreds of fact, many pure fiction.

To come up with my Top 50, I consulted this rag's staff, plus experts/frequent contributors/cheap workers: Larry Brown, one of Wyoming's preeminent historians and all-around nice guys; Coloradan Linda Wommack, who has worked on everything from histories of Western prostitutes to Sand Creek; Texan Steve Smith, who is a movie and music history buff and sometime *True West* contributor; James Collender who is a nationally recognized Western artist who specializes in Wyoming and the Wild Bunch, and lives in Goodyear, Arizona, and Tennessee's rock-solid James Crutchfield, who knows more about mountain men and the early West than does Kit Carson.

Here are the legendary people, places and events most worthy of our Wild West Show.

50. Johnny Cash

He didn't shoot a man in Reno just to watch him die. In fact, the Man in Black never spent a night in prison unless you count concerts at San Quentin, Folsom, Huntsville and Ostraker. He did spend several nights in various jails for drug possession. "You just thought Kid Rock was the American Bad Ass," Steve Smith says. "J.R. Cash was the real deal."

49. The Border Shift

Curly Bill Brocius perfected this gunman's trick (also known as the "road agent's spin") when he handed Marshal Fred White his six-shooter butt first in Tombstone, Arizona, in 1880, then spun it around and cocked it. White grabbed the pistol—dumb move—and died. That led to Wyatt Earp's lifelong feud with Brocius and, maybe, one dead Brocius at Iron Springs, Arizona, in 1882.

48. Coonskin Cap

Sue Dickinson noted Davy Crockett's peculiar cap when she passed his slain body after the final assault on the Alamo. Daniel Boone, on the other hand, never cared much for this headpiece, although the theme song to a 1960s TV show says otherwise. Walt Disney made the coonskin cap a status symbol—and one endearing legend—for every boy and many girls in the 1950s.

47. Sasquatch

Call it "Bigfoot"—the stinking, hairy, eight-foot-tall part-man, part-ape. (Isn't that just a very tall man?) David Thompson discovered a set of tracks in Canada in 1811, and Roger Patterson and Robert Gimlin filmed Bigfoot in California in 1967. Both cases, and a slew of alleged sightings in between, have done nothing to prove Sasquatch as hoax or history. We believe . . . but we also believe in Godzilla and Oliver North.

46. Boot Hill

Back East, they would have been called potters' fields. In New Orleans, they'd be the honeycombed walls instead of granite and marble tombs. Boot Hills were graveyards for the indigent and unwashed in cities such as Dodge City, Kansas, and Tombstone, Arizona. The graveyards often showcased Western humor with epitaphs such as "Here Lies Lester Moore, 4 slugs from a .44, No Les, No More."

45. Anna Richey's Death

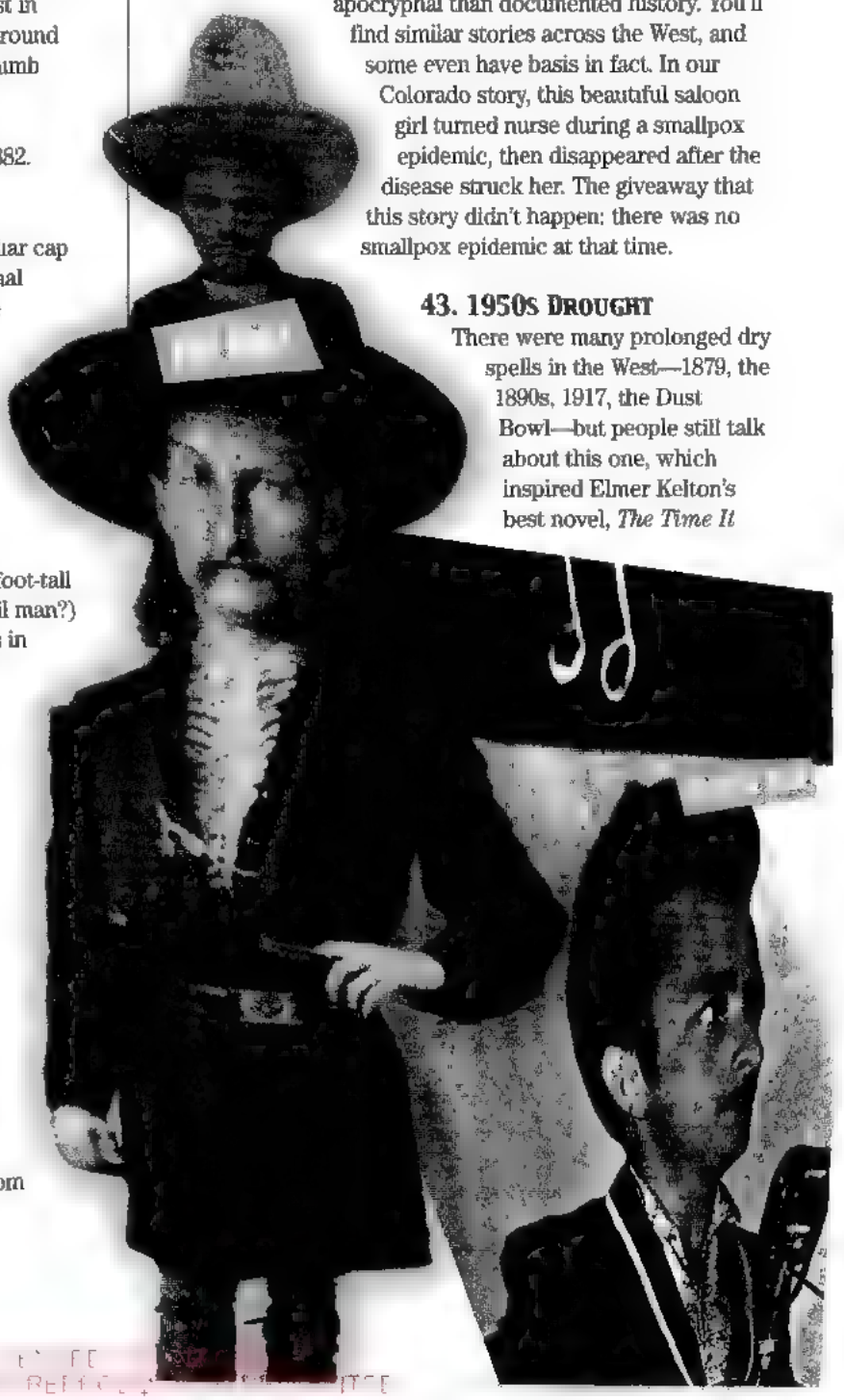
She was the first convicted woman cattle rustler in Wyoming. Historian Larry Brown, who knows more about Wyoming and Wyoming prostitutes (in the historical sense only, folks!) than anyone, explains: "The beauty failed to reach the Colorado State Penitentiary, where so many Wyoming women were incarcerated, however, because someone mysteriously poisoned her with strychnine just days before she was to be taken there."

44. Silver Heels

Another prostitute story, only this one is more apocryphal than documented history. You'll find similar stories across the West, and some even have basis in fact. In our Colorado story, this beautiful saloon girl turned nurse during a smallpox epidemic, then disappeared after the disease struck her. The giveaway that this story didn't happen: there was no smallpox epidemic at that time.

43. 1950s Drought

There were many prolonged dry spells in the West—1879, the 1890s, 1917, the Dust Bowl—but people still talk about this one, which inspired Elmer Kelton's best novel, *The Time It*



Never Rained. The drought ruined many in the Southwest, particularly Texas. In 1957, Pres. Eisenhower toured drought-stricken West Texas, and shortly afterward the drought broke with heavy flooding and more financial losses. Texans called it "Republican rain."

42. Colorado's Man-Eater

In 1874, a Rockies winter left Alfred Packer and a party of gold seekers stranded and starving. Only Packer walked out, eventually confessing that he had eaten his comrades, but only after they were killed by another miner. Packer claimed he killed the miner in self-defense, and then ate him as well. The jury didn't believe Packer in two trials, although he was eventually freed and died claiming his innocence. Packer has spawned documentaries, musicals, novels, histories . . . even a restaurant.

41. The Masked Rider of Laramie Peak

Larry Brown fills us in on Charles Adams: "'The Masked Rider of Laramie Peak' created a national media stir when he tried to chase prominent ranchers from eastern Wyoming, because he suspected their success had come at the expense of local 'sodbusters.' His suspicions, however, fueled by his love of pulp fiction, caused his undoing. While trying to lure the law away from his path of threats, he shot himself in the shoulder, then claimed to be one of the Masked Rider's victims. Alas, he learned too late that he should not have bared the front of his shoulder to do that deed, because, when investigators found but one bullet hole in the back of his shirt, they determined his guilt and convicted him."

40. When Hardin Met Hickok

John Wesley Hardin got the drop on Wild Bill Hickok in Abilene, Kansas, so Hickok befriended his better, much the way Matt Dillon befriended any guest star who was quicker on the draw. The only documentation for Hardin and Hickok's encounter is Hardin's autobiography, published after both gunmen were dead. Hardin biographer Leon Metz believes the story; Hickok biographer Joseph Rosa says Hardin was full of himself. Gentlemen, take ten paces, turn and begin firing.

39. The Death of Doc Holliday

It's a sad scene, Wyatt Earp's bedside vigil with his friend succumbing to TB. At least, Val Kilmer and Kurt Russell thought so. But, truth be told, "Wyatt didn't know where Doc was or when he died until months after the fact," Linda Wommack says. "It is also untrue that Doc died at a sanitarium. He died in an old hotel in Glenwood Springs, not even close to the best accommodations in town."

38. Chivalrous Jesse James

He didn't rob from the rich and give to the poor. That was Robin Hood, and no one ever called Frank James, the Youngers, Fords, Hites, et al, Jesse's "merry men." Jesse had a sense of humor, but there's no irrefutable documentation that he robbed a bank, gave a widow money for her mortgage, then robbed the banker after he collected from her.

37. Ellen "Cattle Kate" Watson

Wyoming gave women the right to vote long before other states did. Thus it's no surprise that Wyoming believed in equal rights for hangings. "Cattle Kate" is the only woman to be lynched in Wyoming. "Although many claim that she was a cattle thief and a whore," Cheyenne's Larry Brown says, "I have failed to find a shred of evidence to support such allegations. Still . . . who knows?"

36. Hole in the Wall

We don't mean your favorite gm mill but the Wyoming hideout made famous by Butch Cassidy. Artist James Collender, who is a founding member of the contemporary Hole in the Wall Gang, says of the hole: "It's just a notch big enough for one horse and one rider to get through, but it's not really a hole. It is the only way in for 50 miles. One guy with a Winchester could hold off an entire army from the Hole in the Wall."

35. Mike Fink

A keelboatman who drank a gallon of whiskey a day, met Davy Crockett (in *The Crockett Almanac 1839*, at least) and was king of the river until, after a bout of drinking, he

tried to shoot a cup off a friend's head, aimed too low, killed the gent and was slain by the dead man's pal. There are more Mike Fink stories than you can shake a stick at. Most aren't true, but all are worth a listen. Innkeeper, more ale!

34. The Naked Duel

"Denver's most famous madam, Mattie Silks, never had a duel with another 'soiled dove' in the context of an actual duel, and she certainly didn't do it naked," Linda Wommack says. The other soiled dove, Katie Fulton, was actually kicked in the face by Mattie's kept man, Corteze Thomson, and she ended up with a broken nose. Not long after the participants parted, a carriage drew up beside Mattie's and someone fired a shot into it. (The bullet grazed Corteze in the neck, but he survived.) The "someone" was said to be either Katie or her friend Sam Thatcher using a pistol Corteze had dropped in the grass during the struggle.

33. Pecos Bill

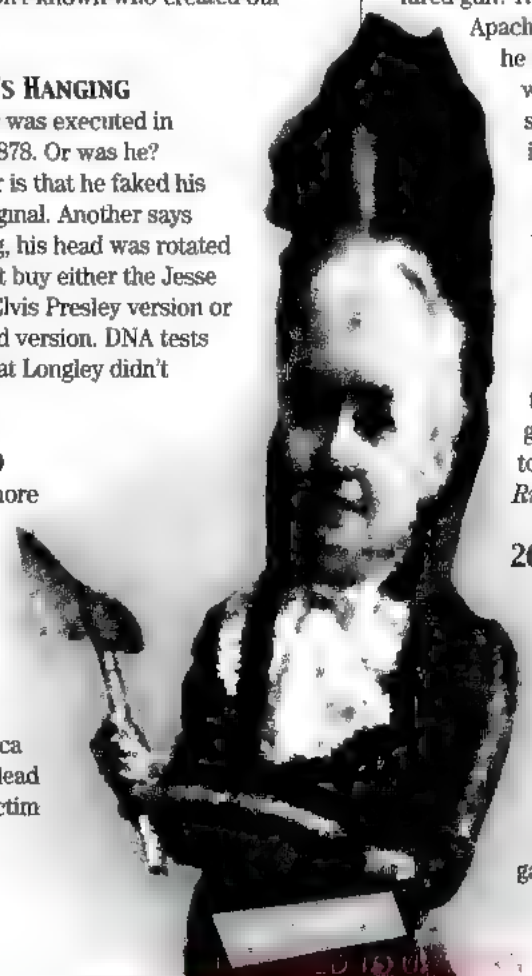
The youngest of 18 kids, he was lost while crossing the Pecos River and was raised by coyotes. He grew up to become a cowboy, could rope a cyclone, rode a horse called Widow-Maker and courted a gal named Slue-Foot Sue. We don't known who created our hero, but we believe.

32. Bill Longley's Hanging

The Texas man-killer was executed in Giddings, Texas, in 1878. Or was he? One persistent rumor is that he faked his death. Gee, that's original. Another says that after the hanging, his head was rotated 360 degrees. We don't buy either the Jesse James-Billy the Kid-Elvis Presley version or the David Copperfield version. DNA tests have since proved that Longley didn't escape the gallows.

31. Johnny Ringo

His legend is much more romantic than what he really was: an alcoholic, star-crossed and despondent loner who hooked up with the Clanton-McLaury crowd in Arizona, circa 1879. He was found dead on July 14, 1882, a victim of suicide or a bullet courtesy of Wyatt Earp . . . Doc Holliday . . . Frank Leslie . . . "Johnny-Behind-the-Deuce" . . . Lorne Greene . . . the CIA . . . Homer Simpson. . . .



30. The First Rodeo

The sport made its debut on Independence Day 1883 in Pecos, Texas—unless you favor the claim that rodeo began in Prescott, Arizona, in 1888. Actually, Santa Fe ropes top honors with an 1847 event. These shows paved the way for future legends like Bill Pickett, Jackson Sundown, Larry Mahan, Ty Murray, Casey Tibbs and Bodacious.

29. "The Yellow Rose of Texas"

This 1836 song is based on the tale of Emily West, sometimes mistakenly called Emily Morgan. A freed black—not a slave, as she was sometimes labeled—James Morgan's housekeeper was captured by the Mexican army during the Texas revolution. Legend has it that her dalliance with Santa Anna in the general's tent helped the Texans win the battle of San Jacinto. If she was there, it wasn't her idea.

28. Tom Horn

Did he kill Willie Nickell, or was he framed by Wyoming's cattle barons who had begun to fear their hired gun? Horn exaggerated his exploits during the Apache campaigns and much of his life, but he was an expert shot, even though he was a drunk and loudmouth. He was sent, guilty or innocent, to the gallows in Cheyenne in 1903.

27. The Winchester Rifle

Heroes twirling, cocking and shooting Mr. Winchester's gun is a myth created by John Wayne and Chuck Connors, but the Winchester '73 was *The Gun That Won* (or lost) *The West.* "Try and think of the Old West without this long gun," Steve Smith says. "Better yet, try to think of 1950s TV without *The Rifleman.*"

26. Carrie Nation's Campaign

You can't think of the temperance movement without this Kentucky-born booze-hater. "In a time of open frontier, where men ruled the world and the household," Linda Wommack asks, "what was she thinking?" Well, how many men are brave enough to tackle a 175-pound, muscular, almost six-foot-tall gal wielding an ax?

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For more than three decades, "Buffalo Bill's Wild West" toured the world, bringing the Wild West frontier to life before millions of adoring fans who had only read about the Wild West and the untamed frontier of cowboys, Indians, and soldiers.

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The stars of the Wild West were historic figures and American cultural icons whose legends endure to this day. There was Buffalo Bill himself, William F. Cody, the legendary scout, buffalo hunter and guide who served as the Wild West's master of ceremonies. There was Sitting Bull, the legendary Sioux Chief who played a pivotal role in General Custer's defeat at the Little Bighorn. There was Annie Oakley, the world-famous sharpshooter who Sitting Bull named "Little Sure Shot." And there was John Y. Nelson, the veteran frontiersman who for years drove the Deadwood Coach in one of the most popular and enduring segments of "Buffalo Bill's Wild West."

Now the lives and careers of these legendary Americans are celebrated with the Buffalo Bill's Wild West Tribute Rifle from America Remembers. Based on the legendary Winchester Model [illegible] rifle, this Model [illegible] caliber .44-40 has been recreated by the master craftsmen of Adolph Uberti, Italy's finest manufacturer of replica firearms. Uberti has handsomely decorated this rifle with artwork celebrating these unforgettable legends of the Wild West. Each rifle is also specially commissioned by America Remembers for this Tribute. And the artwork is engraved in 24-karat gold with a blackened patinaed background for maximum contrast.

The "Buffalo Bill's Wild West Tribute" is a museum-quality, working firearm in caliber .44-40. The handsomely blued, 24-1/4 inch tapered octagonal barrel is complemented perfectly by the elegantly decorated receiver, along with the polished and gold decorated lever, hammer, trigger, buttplate, forearm end cap, and the polished and elegantly decorated walnut stocks.

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Right side of the receiver features a portrait of Annie Oakley, "Little Sure Shot." On her self-designed costume are pinned some of the many medals she won in shooting competitions around the world. To her left, the Deadwood Coach is featured, with John Nelson in the driver's seat. [illegible] Buffalo Bill's Wild West. [illegible] celebrating the Wild West [illegible] with Chief Sitting Bull and American Indians.

Left side of the receiver features a handsome portrait of the legendary Sioux Chief Sitting Bull [illegible] Buffalo Bill [illegible] Sitting Bull [illegible] Buffalo Bill's Wild West. [illegible] Indian Chief Sitting Bull [illegible] Buffalo Bill [illegible]

[illegible] with the Tribute" title, "Buffalo Bill's Wild West." The [illegible] American buffalo framed in an oval.

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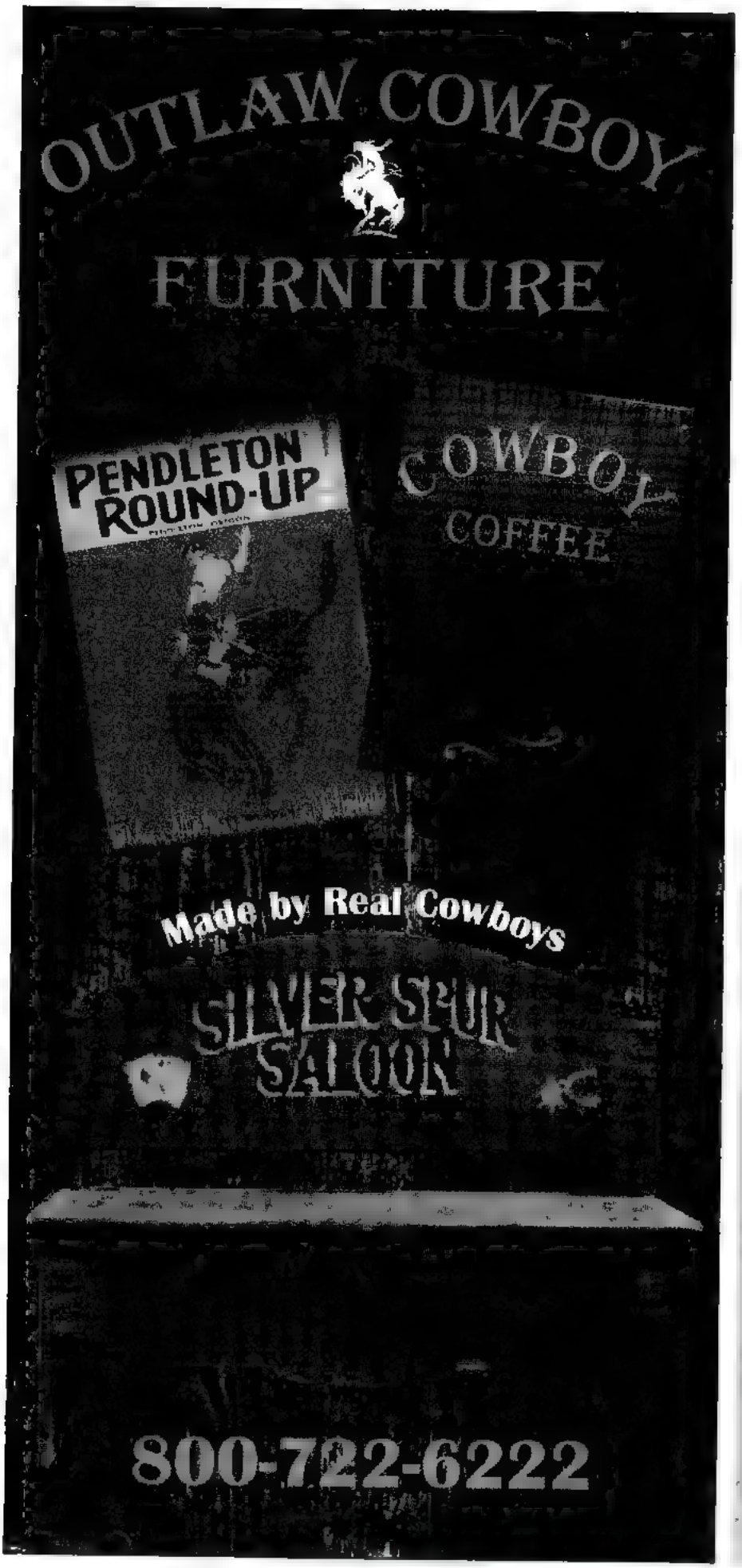

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25. Comanche

This 15-hand bay gelding was owned by Capt. Myles Keogh, and was supposedly the only surviving member of the Seventh Cavalry that rode with Custer's group at Little Bighorn. Actually, other horses did survive because horses with Seventh Cavalry brands were discovered among Indian herds after the battle. Comanche lived to a ripe 29 years old, then was stuffed and put on display at the University of Kansas. Boy, if only he were Mr. Ed.

24. When Billy Met Jesse

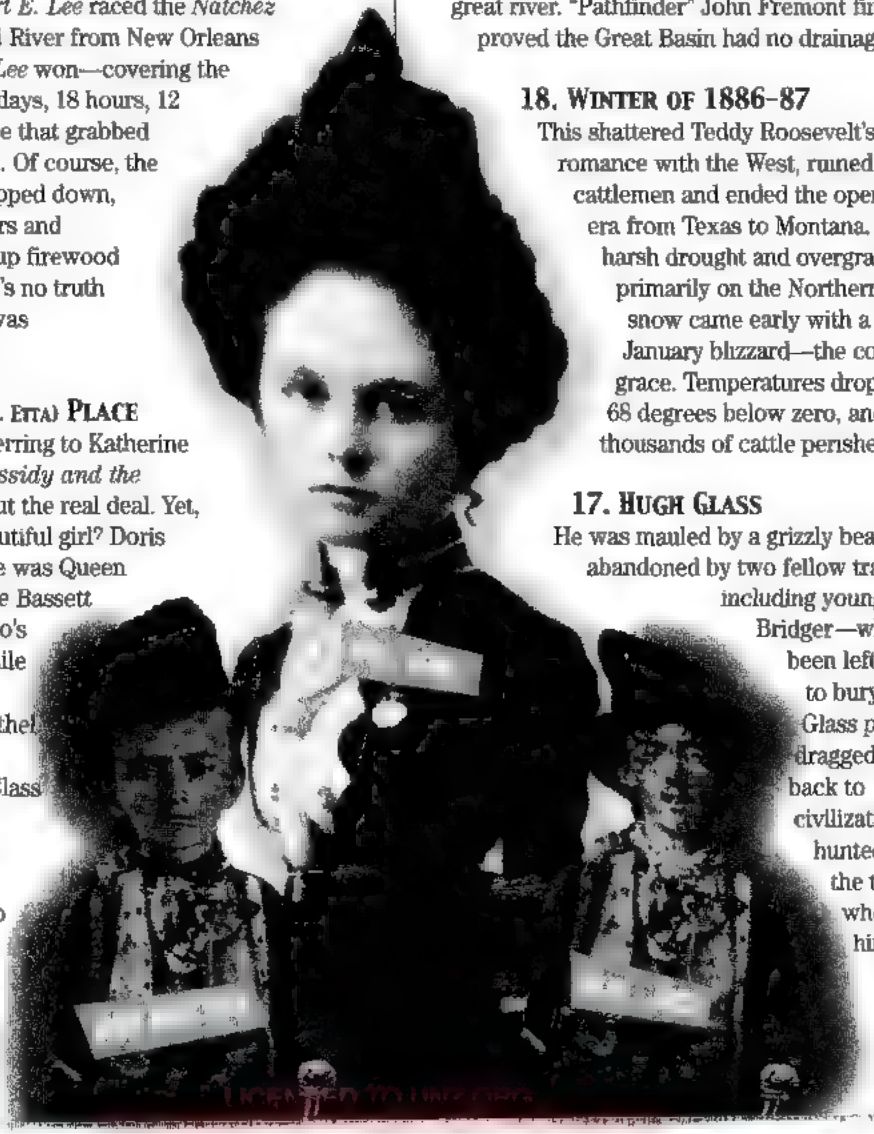
At a hot springs near Las Vegas, New Mexico, in 1879, Billy the Kid talked with Jesse James, traveling incognito as Thomas Howard of Tennessee. The Kid decided not to join Jesse's gang. The story, compliments of Dr. Henry Holt, who says he was there, sounds absurd, but historians are hesitant to dismiss it as hogwash. (After all, isn't *Billy the Kid vs. Dracula* also based on fact?)

23. The Great Steamboat Race

In 1870, the *Robert E. Lee* raced the *Natchez* up the Mississippi River from New Orleans to St. Louis. The *Lee* won—covering the distance in three days, 18 hours, 12 minutes—in a race that grabbed national attention. Of course, the *Lee* had been stripped down, took no passengers and arranged to pick up firewood midstream. There's no truth that her captain was Richard Petty.

22. Ethel (a.k.a. Etta) Place

No, we're not referring to Katherine Ross in *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*, but the real deal. Yet, who was this beautiful girl? Doris Burton claims she was Queen Ann Bassett of the Bassett Ranch in Colorado's Brown's Park, while Donna B. Ernst claims she was Ethel Bishop of a San Antonio, Texas, Class A house of prostitution. The search for the truth continues to this day.



21. John Colter

The mountain man wandered into Yellowstone National Park and discovered the bubbling sulfur pools and geysers (the phrase "Colter's Hell" first appeared in 1835, 22 years after his death). Yet his most famous feat is his escape from the Blackfeet, when they gave him a head start. He ran for his life and outfoxed the Indians by hiding in a beaver dam or pile of driftwood.

20. Singing Cowboys

Gene and Roy made 'em famous, but while Old West cowboys certainly sang to soothe cattle, they didn't sound like Joni Harms. And they couldn't very well pack a guitar all the way up the Chisholm Trail. Besides, cowboys favored a banjo or fiddle. Guitars were for sissies!

19. Buenaventura River

Folks thought this river drained the Great Basin. Heck, even Gov. McLoughlin of the Hudson's Bay Company put it on a map, but no one ever found this great river. "Pathfinder" John Fremont finally proved the Great Basin had no drainage.

18. Winter of 1886–87

This shattered Teddy Roosevelt's romance with the West, ruined many cattlemen and ended the open range era from Texas to Montana. After a harsh drought and overgrazing, primarily on the Northern ranges, snow came early with a brutal January blizzard—the coup de grace. Temperatures dropped to 68 degrees below zero, and tens of thousands of cattle perished.

17. Hugh Glass

He was mauled by a grizzly bear, then abandoned by two fellow trappers—including young Jim Bridger—who had been left behind to bury him. Glass practically dragged himself back to civilization, then hunted down the trappers who had left him. Only

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he decided not to exact his revenge (lucky for history's sake, luckier for Jim Bridger's sake).

16. Billy Dixon's Shot

At the Battle of Adobe Walls in 1874, Dixon, shooting a .44 Sharps, knocked an Indian off his horse at a distance of eight-tenths of a mile. Some reports say the Indian was killed; others say the bullet was spent and merely stunned him. Could Dixon even see that far? Well, we wouldn't stand there and give him a chance at us.

15. The Bowie Knife

Rezin Bowie gets credit for the long blade with a wicked curve and double edge near the point. Actually, knife makers from Arkansas to Louisiana helped fine-tune the weapon, but there is no doubt who and what made it famous: James Bowie's duel with Norris Wright on a sandbar on the west bank of the Mississippi near Natchez on September 19, 1827.

14. Buffalo Bill

Revisionist historians give him a lot of flak as a drunkard, braggart and liar. Drunkard? Check. Braggart? Check. Liar? Welll, Wilham F. Cody loved a tall tale, exaggerated like a catfish angler, was a poor businessman and an easy mark for anyone with a sob story, but he also was a true frontiersman, and his Wild West shows spread Western legends across the globe.

13. The Death of Jesse James

Bob Ford didn't kill Jesse James in St. Joseph, Missouri, in 1882. It was another brilliant ploy by "Mr. Howard" to escape the dastardly Pinkertons, railroads and Yankees. Jesse retired to Granbury, Texas, and lived happily ever after with John Wilkes Booth. Better leave this one to the conspiracy theorists. History is pretty sure that the dirty little coward who shot Mr. Howard laid the real Jesse in his grave.

12. Lost Dutchman Mine

Many have searched Arizona's Superstition Mountains for Jacob Waltz's gold mine, which the Old Dutchman (what Germans were called back then) kept to himself by supposedly killing others who found it. After Waltz died, Dick Holmes spent 28 years looking for it. No luck. If you come across a paloverde tree with one arm pointing away from Weaver's Needle, walk 200 yards east. If you find the world's richest gold mine, you'll be killed or cursed. Do yourself a favor: give us the mine.

11. Dead Man's Hand

Actually, the poker hand Wild Bill Hickok held when he was killed in Deadwood's Saloon No. 10 wasn't reported at the time of his death. Some later accounts

said he held black aces and eights. The fifth card has been identified variously as a jack or queen (hearts or diamonds) and the nine of diamonds. Personally, I've been killed in poker games with even better hands than aces and eights.

10. Paul Bunyan

This one's for all the lumberjacks . . . and Paul's blue ox "Babe." Paul owes his legendary status to Davy Crockett, Mike Fink and other frontiersmen, but even more to his creator: the writer of "The Round River Drive," which appeared in Detroit's *News-Tribune* in 1910. The folk hero has appeared many times since, from lumber company promotional pamphlets to novels and animated features.

9. Daniel Boone

He was one of America's first folk heroes, and a long hunter who made frontiersmen seem respectable. His legend was secured when he led a party that rescued his daughter Jemima and her two friends after they were kidnapped by Shawnees and Cherokees. Boone inspired James Fenimore Cooper's *Leatherstocking Tales*, a Marx action figure and another hit for Fess Parker.

8. Calamity Jane

Was she Wild Bill's lover or just an ugly cross-dresser with a wicked imagination and a mouth in need of Ma's lye soap? As Linda Wommack puts it: "Say what you will. Many have, even Calamity herself. For all the false stories she or others told, she remains an exceptional woman for her time. A woman who undertook a man's way of life on the open frontier, free of fear and even more, free of spirit."

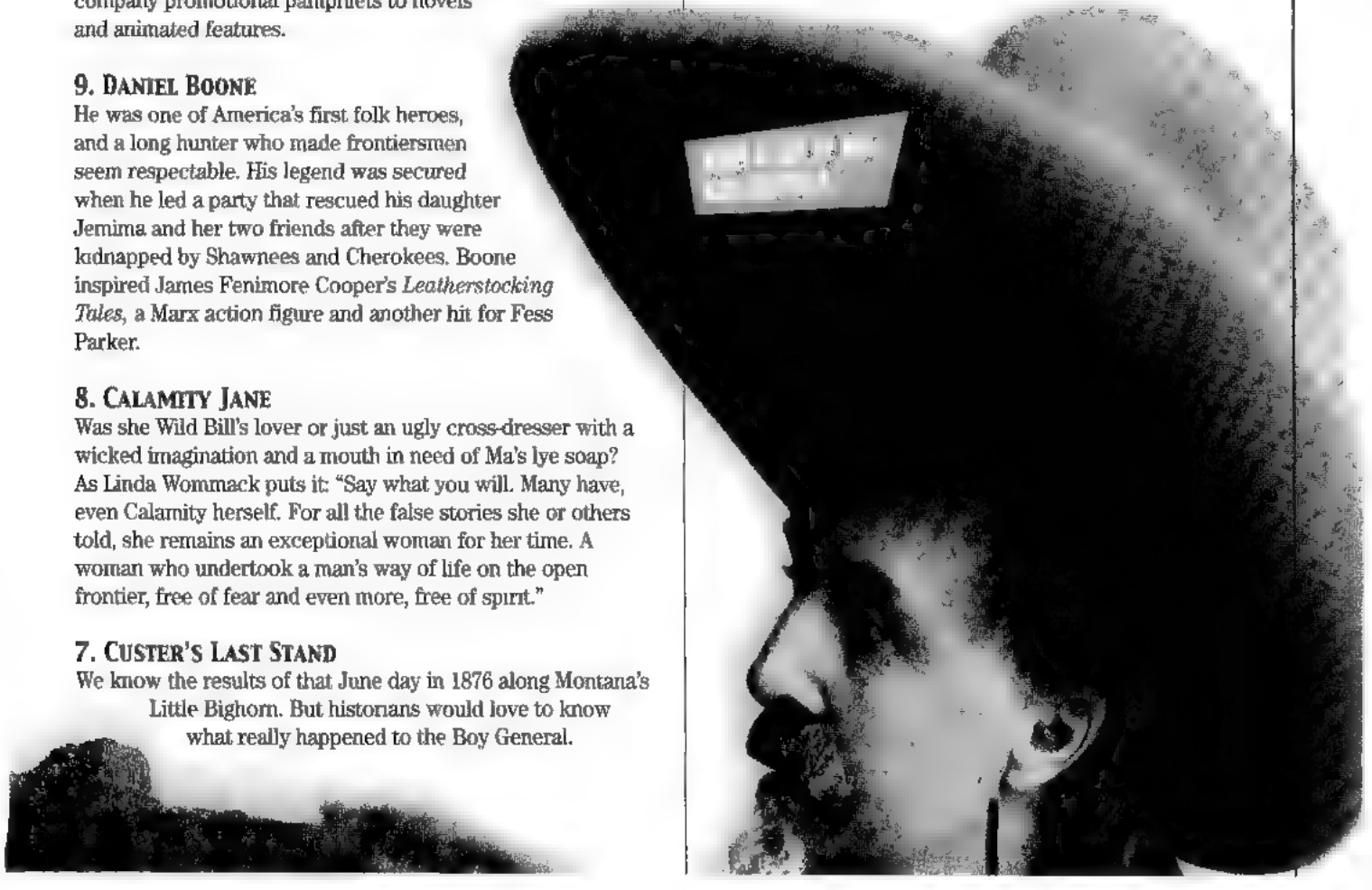
7. Custer's Last Stand

We know the results of that June day in 1876 along Montana's Little Bighorn. But historians would love to know what really happened to the Boy General.

"Gorgeous George has enjoyed one long denouement," Steve Smith says.

6. The Line in the Sand

Crockett, Travis and Bowie . . . the Alamo 1836 is full of legends and myths, no matter how you argue Crockett's death. But the image of Travis drawing a line in the sand with his saber and watching every man (or every man but one) cross it and volunteer to stay, fight and die is particularly haunting and heroic.



5. Gunfight near the O.K. Corral

A fight to bring justice to the streets of Tombstone… or a turf war between two despicable gangs of thugs. In either version, it remains the West's most memorable gunfight. As Steve Smith quips: "Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday—like John Adams and Thomas Jefferson or Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis—one of the great buddy acts in American history. Their greatest piece of work."

4. Billy the Kid

Yeah, yeah, yeah. Billy wasn't killed by Pat Garrett at Fort Sumner in 1881, but went on to live to a ripe old age as Brushy Bill Roberts in Hico, Texas. Wrong, barbecue breath. Garrett killed the Kid. Crimmy, the dead giveaway is Hico, Texas. Everyone knows that if you fake your death and move to Texas, you don't go to Hico; you hide out in Granbury with Jesse James and John Wilkes Booth!

3. Butch & Sundance

How did Robert Leroy Parker and Harry Longabaugh die? There's no proof that Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid died in a hail of bullets in San Vicente, Bolivia, in 1911. Likewise, we can't prove they left South America and quietly returned to the United States to live to ripe old ages. We can prove, though, that "Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head" doesn't play as well in 2003 as it did in 1969.

2. Seven Cities of Gold

Boy, Spanish explorers were gullible, believing the stories Indians told to get rid of 'em. Francisco Vasquez Coronado couldn't find these mythical cities of riches, but the path he took home became the Santa Fe Trail. Cities of Gold does exist, by the way. It's a casino in Pojoaque, New Mexico.

1. Northwest Passage

Like the Buenaventura River, Strait of Anian and Eldorado, this outlet to the Pacific didn't exist either, but the search for a quicker route to the Orient strongly contributed to the exploration of much of our West, including the Upper Mississippi, Great Lakes and Canadian interior. Such explorations, in turn, helped fuel the Westward migration.

True West trailboss Bob Boze Bell is the biggest legend **Johnny D. Boggs** has ever known. (Editor's note: Bob Boze Bell paid Johnny D. Boggs for this delusional, unabashed and blatant lie.)

– All images True West Archives –

"The one duty we owe history is to rewrite it."

- Oscar Wilde

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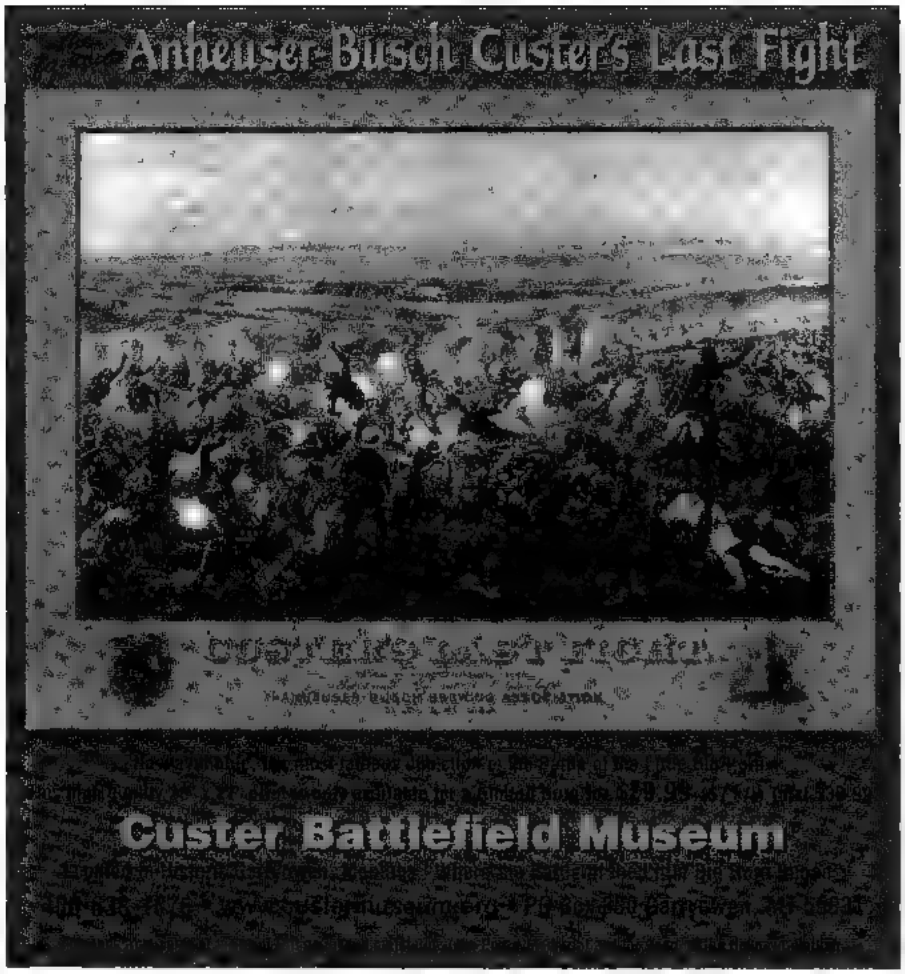
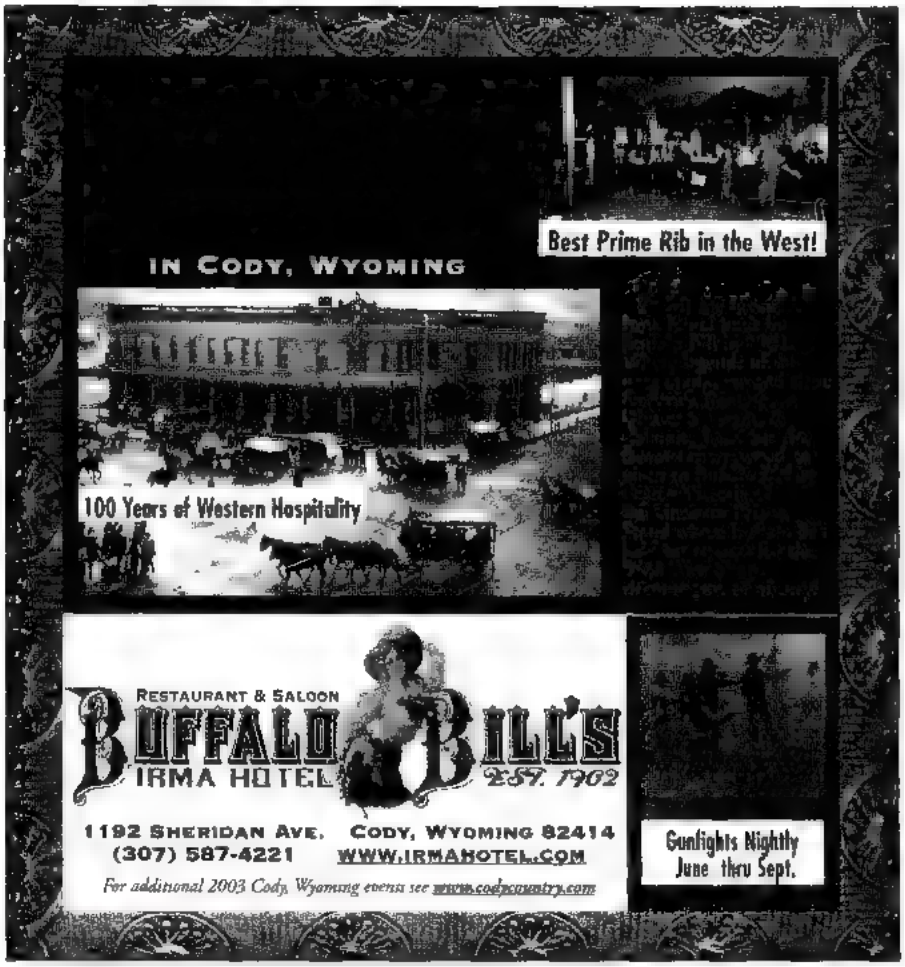
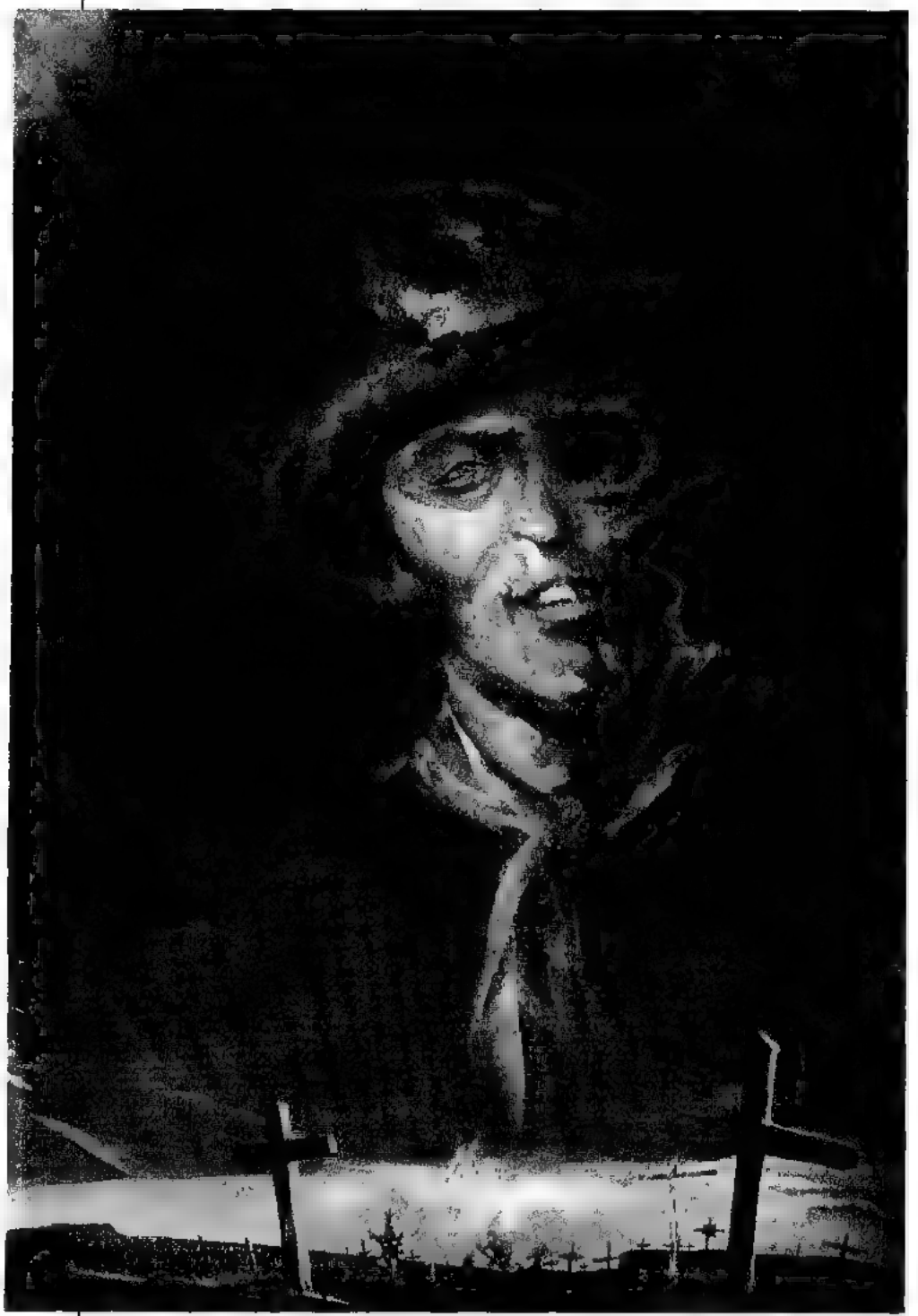




BY JANA BOMMERSBACH

Digging Up Billy

If Pat Garrett didn't kill the Kid, who's buried in his grave?



Will DNA prove Brushy Bill Roberts was Billy the Kid? Lincoln County, New Mexico, lawmen seek to disprove Roberts' claim.

ILLUSTRATION BY BBB --

He was the bad boy of the West—remembered as either a cold-blooded murderer or a misunderstood kid who never really killed 21 people, one for every year of his life. But 122 years after he died (or did he?), Billy the Kid is again making history.

On June 5, for the first time ever, he appeared on the front page of *The New York Times*, America's "newspaper of record." Until now, his best showing had been a little mention on page six in 1881 after he supposedly was killed by Lincoln County Sheriff Pat Garrett.

"122 Years Later, the Lawmen are Still Chasing Billy the Kid," the recent headline read as reporter Michael Janofsky alerted the nation to a bizarre and bold twist in one of the Old West's most intriguing mysteries.

Three bodies will be dug up to compare their DNA: a woman who many believe was Billy the Kid's mother; a Texas man who died in 1950, claiming he was the REAL Billy the Kid and a deceased Arizona man who claimed HE was the Kid.

This exhumation may prove if either Brushy Bill Roberts from Hico, Texas or John Miller from Prescott, Arizona, was in fact a man known as William Bonney, a.k.a. Billy the Kid.

At stake here is not only a case of identity, but also a case of honor: Pat Garrett killed somebody on July 14, 1881, and if it wasn't the Kid, then the man who became a hero for disposing of the bad boy of the West was really a liar and a murderer.

Most significantly, it's not some splinter or kooky group that wants to do the exhuming and genetic testing. It's the highest authority in New Mexico, Gov. Bill Richardson. Two other major driving forces are the current Lincoln County Sheriff Tom Sullivan and Capitan, New Mexico Mayor Steve Sederwall.

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Pete Maxwell's house (inset) in Old Fort Sumner is where Sheriff Pat Garrett reportedly shot and killed Billy the Kid on July 14, 1881. If it wasn't Billy asking "Quien es? Quien es?," then Garrett's fame may be undeserved.

– All photos True West Archives unless otherwise noted –

Sullivan is at the heart of this quest. "I just want to get to the bottom of it," he told *The New York Times*. "My integrity's at stake. So's my department's. So's what we believe in and even New Mexico history." As Sullivan tells *True West*, "We're just trying to set history straight."

Gov. Richardson wants to know if the Kid deserves a pardon for killing Sheriff William Brady in 1878. After all, Billy was one of six people involved in shooting the sheriff—considered by most a dirty slime who got what he deserved—but Billy was the only one charged. And all this adds up to not only a chance to clarify and perhaps correct American history, but also a great tourism boom for New Mexico.

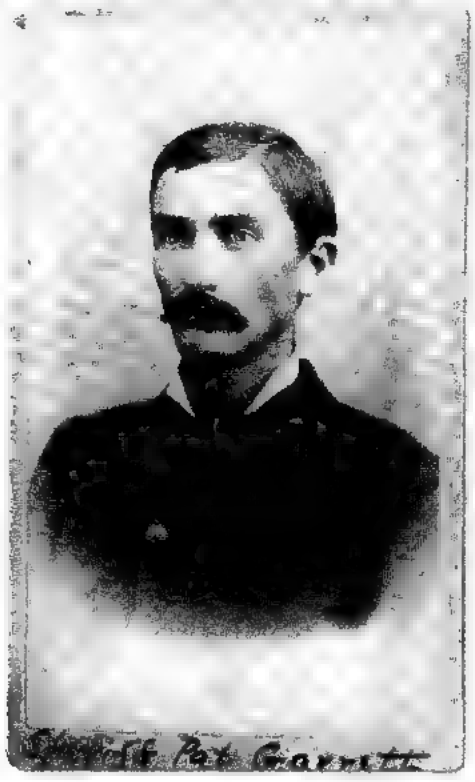
Sheriff Pat Garrett—the avenger

History tells us that deputies James Bell and Robert Olinger—the men Billy the Kid killed as he escaped from the Lincoln County jail—were avenged when Sheriff Garrett tracked the outlaw to Fort Sumner and shot him in the heart.

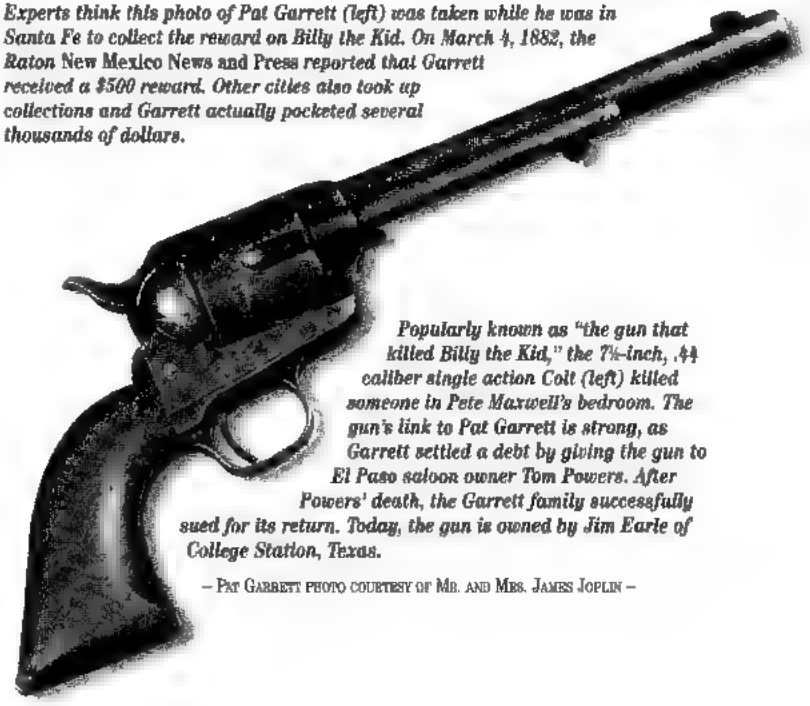
Sheriff Tom Sullivan so admired the bravery and heroism of his long-ago predecessor, that he designed a patch bearing Garrett's likeness that has been proudly worn for decades on sheriff deputy uniforms.

But then last winter, Sullivan and his wife Pat were traveling through Texas to visit their children. When they passed through Hico, they saw a monument and museum to the "real" Billy the Kid, Brushy Bill Roberts. Roberts' claim so disturbed the sheriff, he decided to find out once and for all.

On April 29, Sheriff Sullivan filed papers with the court in Lincoln County to reopen the investigation into the deaths of the two deputies who gave their lives during the Kid's 1881 escape.



Experts think this photo of Pat Garrett (left) was taken while he was in Santa Fe to collect the reward on Billy the Kid. On March 4, 1882, the Raton New Mexico News and Press reported that Garrett received a $500 reward. Other cities also took up collections and Garrett actually pocketed several thousands of dollars.



Popularly known as "the gun that killed Billy the Kid," the 7½-inch, .44 caliber single action Colt (left) killed someone in Pete Maxwell's bedroom. The gun's link to Pat Garrett is strong, as Garrett settled a debt by giving the gun to El Paso saloon owner Tom Powers. After Powers' death, the Garrett family successfully sued for its return. Today, the gun is owned by Jim Earle of College Station, Texas.

– Pat Garrett photo courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. James Joplin –

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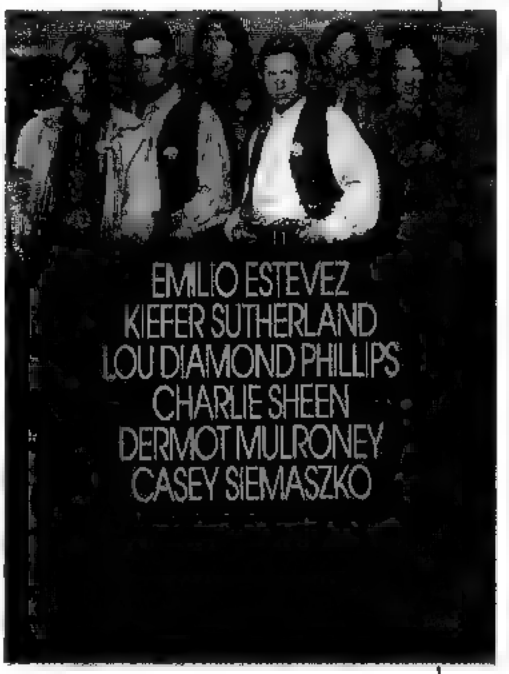
Gov. Richardson has offered state aid for the investigation and has appointed Paul Hutton, a renowned Western historian from the University of New Mexico and *True West* contributing editor, to assist as the official historian.

"And if we find that Pat Garrett was a liar about Billy the Kid, we will remove his image from our patch," the sheriff has vowed.

In the meantime, Sheriff Sullivan has gotten the New Mexico Sheriff Association to buy a marker for James Bell. On July 19, 2003, in a ceremony that will replicate an 1800s funeral, they will finally mark his grave. Unfortunately, they no longer know where Olinger's grave is, or "we'd do the same thing for him," the sheriff says.



***In 1991,* Young Guns II *(right) resurrected Brushy Bill's claim to be Billy the Kid. These claims were first published 46 years earlier when William Morrison (above), along with author C.L. Sonnichsen, convinced the University of New Mexico to publish* Alias Billy the Kid.**

Brushy Bill's claim

For a lot of years, Brushy's story of being Billy the Kid was seen as not only a fraud, but also a sloppy fraud. When the guy showed up in New Mexico in 1950 with attorney William Morrison asking for a pardon for Billy the Kid's crimes, he was almost laughed out of town.

Brushy, who claimed he'd been living a quiet life in Hico, Texas, got so many details wrong: he didn't know things he should have; he misstated known facts, claiming things nobody believed, and he bore such little resemblance to the one photo that exists of the Kid, that it was easy to conclude Roberts was making it all up.

But then, some credence to his claim came from Hollywood, when noted screenwriter John Fusco told his story in *Young Guns II*.

On November 29, 1950, Ollie "Brushy Bill" Roberts (left) met with Gov. Mabry to request a pardon for his crimes as the Kid. The governor's response: "I am taking no action, now or ever, on this application for a pardon for Billy the Kid because I do not believe this man is Billy the Kid."

"Many have asked me why I went with Brushy Bill's story in *Young Guns II* (I even received an anonymous death threat in New Mexico)," Fusco tells *True West*. "The plain truth is that the story of Garrett and the Kid had been told on the big screen about thirty times in the past. *Young Guns* was based on the early days of the Kid and the Lincoln County Wars. I did not expect it to be the box office hit it was, and when I was offered the chance to write and produce a sequel, I wanted a fresh take on the Garrett-Kid story. The Brushy Bill angle provided that and gave me an opportunity to explore this facet of Kid lore."

Even though he became rich and famous for telling the story, Fusco admits he doesn't buy it. "But do I believe that Roberts was William Bonney? No, I'm with Sheriff Sullivan on that. Like Sheriff Sullivan, I have always believed that Pat Garrett killed the Kid in Old Fort Sumner in 1881."

Yet there are those just as adamant that Roberts was indeed the infamous outlaw. Among them are Bob Hefner and Dr. Jannay Valdez, who have coauthored the book *Billy the Kid Killed in New Mexico—Died in Texas*, which declares Brushy "was indeed Billy the Kid" and contends the Kid has been misunderstood all these years.

Here's how Hefner describes his subject: "No, not just an outlaw, not a wanton killer, instead it is about a man that fought for justice the only way he knew how. It is about a man that led a life almost too full to

be written about. It is about a man that publicly confessed his wrongs because he wanted 'to meet my maker with all things corrected.'"

Crazed historians

New York Times reporter Mike Janofsky told *True West* he enjoyed reporting the story, but found people "totally crazed" on both sides of the issue. "It's fun to listen to them, they each want their side to be right," he said. But as far as he's concerned, "The best thing that could happen is that they never solve it—then people can just go on debating it forever."

Paul Hutton thinks "the real significance here has to do with us today and our continued fascination with the Old West. It shows the stories still have life."

To solve the mystery about Billy the Kid, some cautions must be heeded.

Is Catherine Bonney really the mother of Billy the Kid, or an aunt, or is she even related at all? Do we know where the Billy killed by Pat Garrett is even buried these days so his DNA could be tested?

Screenwriter Fusco argues that those questions can't be ignored.

"Many years ago in New Mexico, old-timers told me that the Kid's remains had been relocated with other graves years ago, and that he most likely rests today somewhere underneath the Santa Fe Sheraton," Fusco says. "As far as Catherine Bonney really being the Kid's aunt, I believe that information came from Brushy Bill Roberts. But unless there is strong evidence that the woman in the grave is William Bonney's mother, this type of investigation might amount to needless grave desecration and a lot of tail chasing."

Like everyone else who's hooked on the Old West, Fusco wants to beg Sheriff Sullivan for an invitation to the exhumations.

He's going to have to stand in line. The sheriff's secretary, Donna Harkey, says her phone hasn't stopped ringing since *The New York Times* piece hit the streets.

"I got a call from one London newspaper yesterday and a different London newspaper today and calls from all over the place—the *Today Show*, all the major networks, California." She admits it's a pretty exciting time and that it's going to be fun to watch Sheriff Tom Sullivan become a media star. And then she begs off, because someone else from London is calling.

And of course, *True West* will be there. Be there? Hell, we'll buy the shovels.

Brushy Bill in front of Billy the Kid's alleged grave.

– Courtesy Lincoln County Heritage Trust –

FIVE GOOD REASONS BRUSHY BILL IS NOT BILLY THE KID

- Brushy Bill's family bible lists his birth as August 26, 1879, which would have made him two years old in 1881 when the Kid was killed. As Roberts' niece Geneva Pittman put it, "He really would have been a kid."
- After WW II there were numerous old-timers claiming to be Old West outlaws, including Frank Dalton, who said he was Jesse James. Brushy Bill Roberts at first claimed to be a member of the James Gang, but then switched to Billy the Kid. Even after the change, Brushy continued making the dubious claim that the James Gang had spent time in Lincoln, New Mexico.
- Brushy Bill said he was left-handed just like the Kid. The conventional wisdom in 1950 was that Billy the Kid was left-handed. Later, someone figured out the only known photo of Billy, with his gun on his left hip, was a tintype and, therefore, a reversed image. Billy was actually right-handed, which left Brushy high and dry.
- When questioned in 1950 by Gov. Mabry on whether he, as the Kid, had killed Olinger and Bell when he escaped from the Lincoln County Jail, Roberts said he hadn't done any shooting that day—he just got on his horse and rode off.
- The body of the person Roberts claimed Garrett actually killed, Billy Barlow, has never been found or noted in any Lincoln County area census records.

FIVE GOOD REASONS WHY PEOPLE WILL CONTINUE TO BELIEVE IN BRUSHY BILL

- Sheriff Garrett was secretive and somewhat evasive before and after the shooting in Pete Maxwell's bedroom.
- No photograph was taken of the dead body (the nearest photographer was 80 miles away).
- There is little doubt that Garrett exaggerated the Kid's weapons at the time of the killing. (Few think the Kid was armed with both a knife and pistol; some, including me, believe he was unarmed.) Even though the Kid was wanted for murder, Garrett felt the need to justify killing him in a darkened bedroom.
- There were no news reporters in remote Fort Sumner—it didn't even have a church—at the time of the killing, and the funeral was held the next day. Such speed always leads to questions and suspicions.
- Any good folk hero somehow, some way cheats death (think Butch Cassidy, Elvis and JFK).

— Bob Boze Bell

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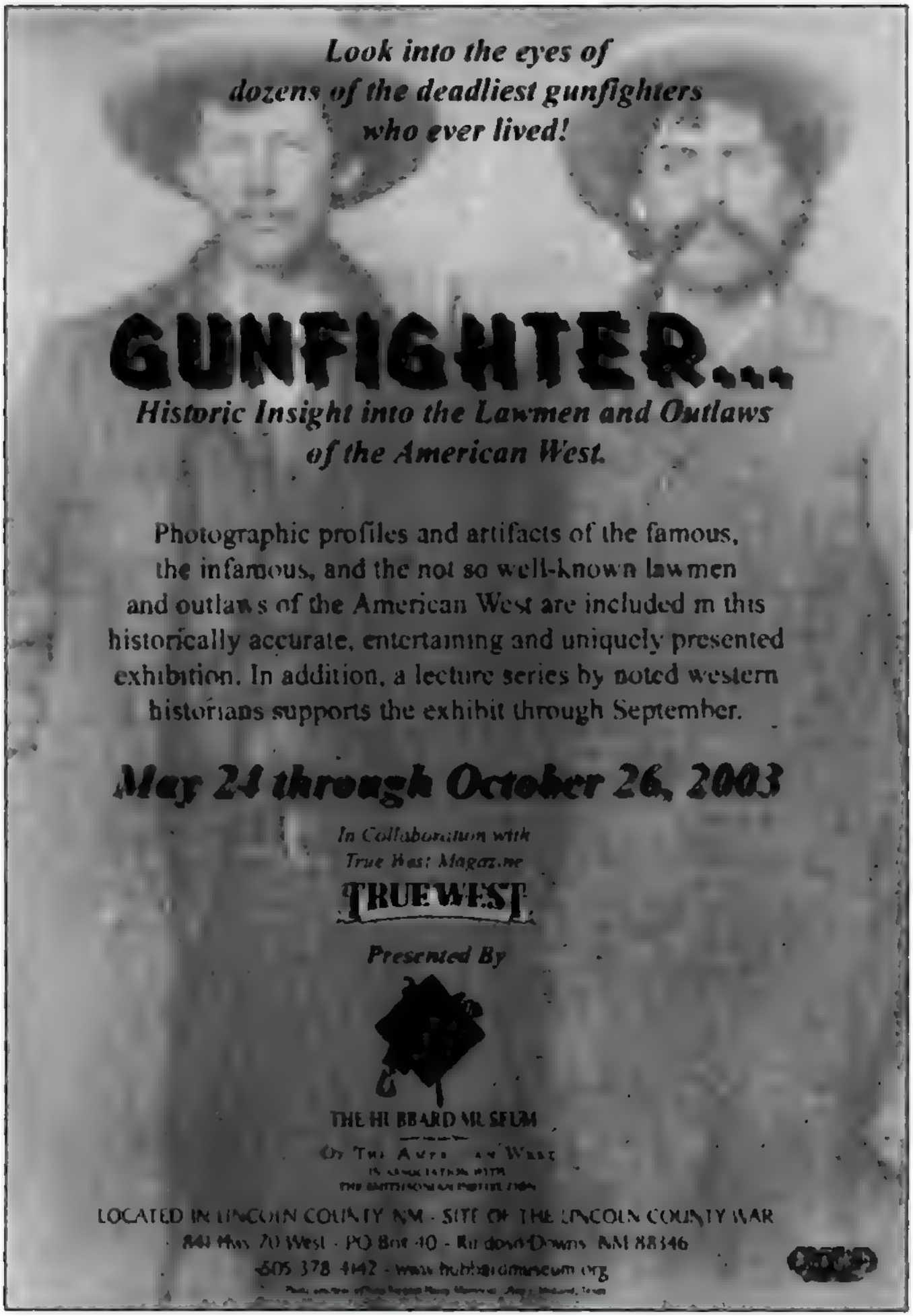
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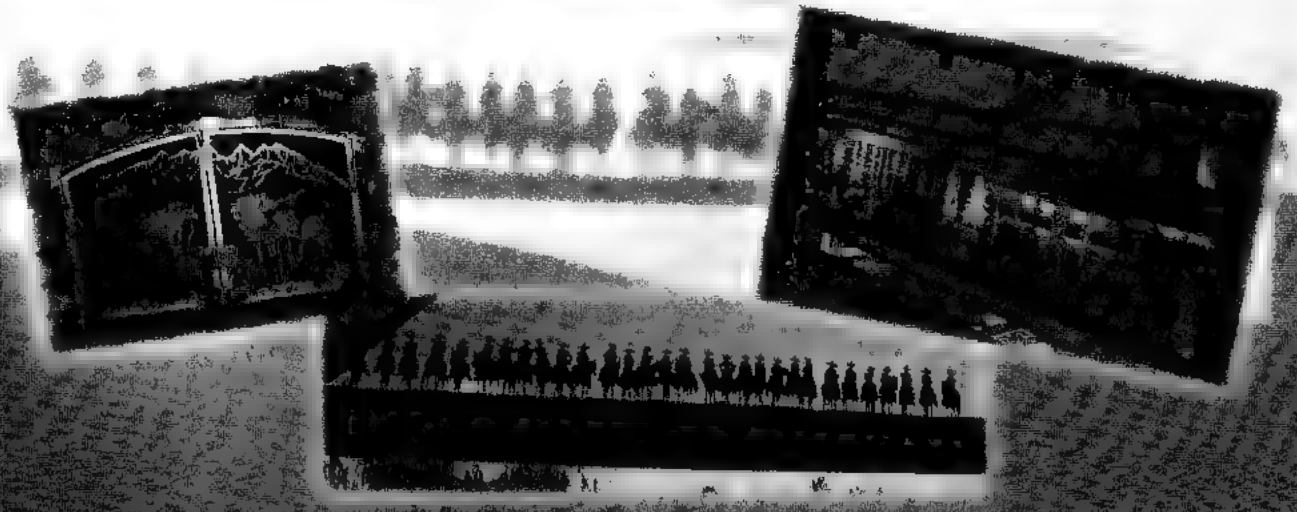

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BY RICHARD PATTERSON

The Mysterious Fourth Robber

Who was with Butch Cassidy in Telluride?

With loot jiggling in the buckskin saddlebag he'd personally sewn, Robert Parker must have known he was a natural.

On June 24, 1889, the man who'd become known as Butch Cassidy had just completed his first major bank robbery.

He and his co-conspirators had ridden into Telluride, Colorado, to make a surprise "withdrawal" from the San Miguel Valley Bank.

The Telluride robbery, which garnered the robbers over $20,000, was hardly the work of amateurs. In fact, it was one of the most carefully planned heists of its day, right down to the escape—a slick arrangement of horse relays held ready by accomplices. (This trick would later become a Wild Bunch trademark.)

What is unique about this particular bank robbery are the conflicting accounts penned by the participants, most notably Matt Warner and Tom McCarty, and the continuing mystery about how many robbers there were that day.

In Warner's book, *Last of the Bandit Riders*—written almost five decades after the robbery—he said the only ones with him were Cassidy and McCarty.

In his memoir, McCarty wrote that before the robbers disbanded, "[T]wo of my partners concluded to purchase a band of horses for their money"—which suggests that he had more than two partners. If this is correct, then which memoir do we depend on? The best sources, besides the actual participants, are the eyewitness accounts given at the time of the robbery.

According to a June 26, 1889, article in the *Pueblo Chieftain*, three men entered the bank while the "fourth man held their horses . . . and the four ran away before the bookkeeper could give the alarm."

Wild Bunch expert Dan Buck discovered this nugget, which is the earliest account of the robbery he's found to date.

Years later, another report gave credence to the four-robber theory. In 1938, local rancher Harry Adsit told the *Telluride Journal* that he had encountered four men riding out of Telluride, two of whom were Cassidy and Warner. (Cassidy had quit work on Adsit's ranch two weeks before this sighting.)

So if there was a fourth man, who was he?

Deputy U.S. Marshal Joe Bush rode with a posse pursuing the robbers and he claimed to know the answer. He had recognized Butch's younger brother Dan as one of the four outlaws. Even though Dan had worked that summer at a ranch where Warner and McCarty spent a week scouting their escape route, outlaw historian Charles Kelly believed Dan was just one of the wranglers at the relay stations.

Sundance biographer Donna Ernst touts Harry Longabaugh as the fourth man. Ernst cites correspondence and personal interviews with members of the Longabaugh family, pointing out that Sundance had lived only about a mile away from a cabin where Warner claimed he and his pals planned the robbery. Yet, Sundance was documented to be in Wyoming in May 1889, so it is unlikely (but not impossible) that he was anywhere near Telluride.

Another possibility is an anonymous confidant of McCarty's. This unknown person reported his story in local newspapers under the byline Rambler, claiming that McCarty had paid him $1,600 to supply the horses and set up the relay stations. He provided a detailed picture of the outlaws' escape route, saying that McCarty wanted horses posted at Keystone Hill, Hot Spring, West Fork, Johnston's Horse Camp and Mud Springs. But Rambler later hedged about the extent of his participation, suggesting that he, too, had been only a horse tender.

In his story of the Wild Bunch, Charles Kelly said the fourth man was Bert Madden, the half brother of Bill Madden, a Manco, Colorado, saloonkeeper who would later ride with the Wild Bunch. Although Kelly never named his source, contemporary newspaper and police accounts give credence to his opinion and make Bert the most likely choice.

Dan Buck said Bert Madden started appearing in newspapers

In between the drug store and San Juan hardware store is the San Miguel Valley Bank in Telluride, Colorado, c. 1885. A few years after the robbery, L.L. Nunn replaced the old bank building with one made of stone.

– Courtesy Jim Miller and Telluride Historical Museum –

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Enough Money to Choke a Cow

We don't know the exact date Robert Leroy Parker set foot in the town of Telluride, Colorado, but we do know the hour he left.

The man known as Butch Cassidy left town June 24, 1889, at 12:30 p.m.—just after he robbed the San Miguel Valley Bank.

In his book, *Last of the Bandit Riders*, Matt Warner recounts the hold-up, but mentions only two accomplices, Cassidy and Tom McCarty, while others claim there were four bandits.

"Butch and me dismounted as casual like as we could and left Tom with the horses to guard the outside. No one was in the bank, but the cashier who was setting unconcerned behind one of the teller windows of the cage. A lot of money (gold coin) was stacked up in piles in front of the teller, all prepared for the mines payroll. We sorta ambled to the window smiling like regular customers. We take in everything with our eyes and are sure no one else is in the bank. (What can I do for you?) says the cashier. My gun is under his nose before he has time to see me draw it. Butch barges right into the cage where the cashier is, like he owns it. The cashier doesn't have to be invited to stick up his hands, they are already up. He looks scared and sick and licked.

Butch Cassidy at Telluride.

– Illustration by Jim Miller

"Put it all in that sack, as [the cashier] hands Butch a buckskin sack hand sown with leather, and passed it through the window. Butch puts enough money in the sack to choke a cow and hands it out to me. I notice the Vault is open. 'Get into the vault, I tell Butch and get the big money.'"

The story fails to mention the rough treatment of the clerk. When Matt entered the bank, he had handed the clerk a check to be cashed. When the unsuspecting clerk bent over the counter to read it, Matt grabbed him by the back of the neck and slapped his head to the hard counter surface. As Matt held the clerk there, with his Colt .45 jammed in the bottom of the clerk's nose, he shouted to Butch to get the money. For 10 to 12 minutes, Matt held the clerk's face down. The frightened clerk was held at such an angle, he couldn't see any of the men robbing the bank.

Butch carried three leather bags of gold coin and paper money out of the bank, leaving the last bag for Matt. The clerk fell to the floor in a heap after Matt let go of him.

"Surveying the quaking mass of humanity the robber said he had a notion to shoot him anyway for being such a coward; and then joining his comrades they mounted their horses and rode leisurely away," according to the *Rocky Mountain News*.

The paper said they stole $20,750.

"We roared out of town like we was in a horse race," Matt later wrote.

Butch's horse was bucking violently, so Butch grabbed the saddle horn and reins to hang on, and in the process, lost his new Stetson hat. After seven or eight hard bucks, the horse raced down the street at a dead run and caught up with the other riders as they headed out of town.

—Jim Miller

as the fourth robber after authorities arrested two of the relay-horse holders, George Brown and Bill Madden, who later gave up the names of the robbers.

In 1889, Telluride Town Marshal Jim Clark told the identities of the four robbers—mistaking Bert's last name as Wagner instead of Madden—to Gunnison County Sheriff Doc Shores. (Clark was later murdered in Telluride in 1895.) On April 30, 1929, Shores reported the information in an oral history memorandum sent to the Denver Public Library.

So who was Bert Madden? Kelly described him as an adventurous lad, but one relegated to waiting in front of the bank as a lookout. Several days after the robbery, Bert's brother Bill was caught smuggling supplies to the robbers, who were reportedly hiding in the nearby Mancos Mountains. Upon searching Bill, the lawmen found a note from Bert with directions on where to take the supplies. When the posse arrived at the spot, however, the outlaws had already left.

The three men known to have participated in the bank robbery. From left to right: Tom McCarty, Matt Warner and Butch Cassidy. Even though Matt Warner never mentions a fourth robber in his biography, other sources, including McCarty, say otherwise. The most likely candidate is Bert Madden. (No known picture of Madden exists.)

– True West Archives

Richard Patterson is the author of *Butch Cassidy: A Biography*.

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CLASSIC GUNFIGHTS

THE BATTLE OF TURKEY CREEK CANYON

THE KETCHUM GANG VS. A CIMARRON SHERIFF'S POSSE

A DUEL IN THE RAIN AND SEMI-DARKNESS

– ALL ILLUSTRATIONS BY BBB –

"... one of the outlaws ... appeared to be a dead shot. Every time he fired, the bullet either found its mark or came uncomfortably close to one of the attacking possemen."
—Associated Press, July 18, 1899.

BY BOB BOZE BELL
BASED ON RESEARCH BY JEFFREY BURTON
MAPS & GRAPHICS BY GUS WALKER

July 16, 1899 (Sunday, 5:15 p.m.)

Three suspected train robbers are in camp at their remote hideout in Turkey Creek Canyon, New Mexico.

Tipped off by a sighting (and a snitch), a seven-man posse out of Cimarron rides to the stronghold and dismounts when campfire smoke is spotted curling up through the trees.

As the posse members get into position—with three of the lawmen climbing a ridge left of the camp and the other four deploying up the north side of the creek bottom—a half-dressed outlaw (Elzy Lay) comes into their view. With a canteen in his hand, Lay approaches a pool of water in the nearly dry creek bottom.

Several of the posse members take aim and fire (most likely Sheriff Edward Farr and Wilson "Memphis" Elliott; reports differ on whether anyone first ordered the outlaw to surrender).

Shot twice, in the shoulder and chest, the outlaw drops as though he was hit with a club. "We've got one of the sons of bitches, anyway," a posse member yells.

Advancing, officer Elliott spots the outlaws' horses tethered at the far end of the camp. He aims and fires, dropping one and perhaps another (see "Aftermath: Odds & Ends," p. 53).

Posse member Perfecto Cordoba spies two of the outlaws standing around a campfire near a cave. As others in the posse begin shooting, Cordoba notices one of the outlaws (Sam Ketchum) running in his direction.

"Look out! There's one of them right at you!" Cordoba yells at Elliott, while racing to Elliott's position. "Look out, he'll shoot you!"

"Show me where he is at," Elliott commands.

"I can't see him now."

"You ought to have shot when you did see him," Elliott argues.

"I didn't have time," Cordoba replies.

Sam Ketchum conceals himself behind a tree less than 40 yards from Elliott.

Elliott and Cordoba hear shots but can't see anything. They finally see glimpses of a hatless head bobbing up and down among the trees on the outlaw side of the canyon and assume this is the bandit Cordoba saw. Elliott fires several bullets up the draw, hitting nothing.

The hatless head belongs to Will Carver, who takes up a position high atop a rocky knoll that is screened with brush. He begins pouring lead across the canyon at Farr, William Reno and Frank Smith. Although Carver is nearly 200 yards away, he hits Smith in the calf of his left leg, causing the lawman to go down.

The rest of the posse members can't locate Carver in the dense brush because he's using smokeless powder.

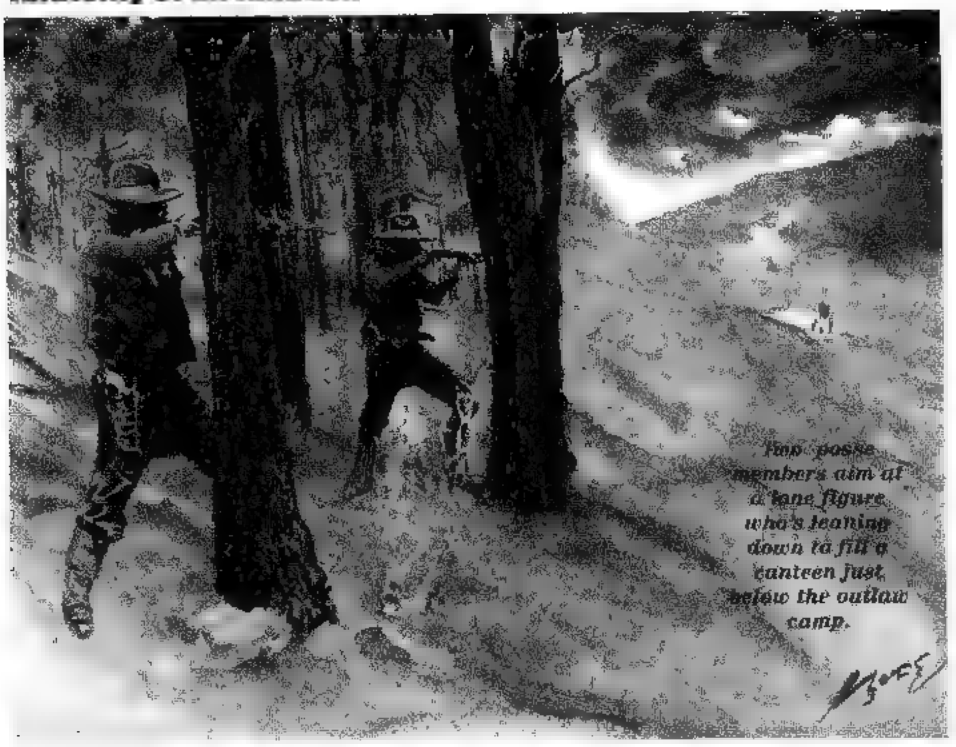
Left for dead, Elzy Lay regains consciousness and starts crawling on all fours. Though bleeding, dazed and in shock, he slowly makes his way back to the outlaw camp. Each time he tries to stand he falls, but he finds his rifle and stumbles down the creek to join the fray. Nearly 50 yards below Carver's position, Lay passes out once again (he's out for about 10 minutes).

No more than 100 feet from Elliott's group, Sam Ketchum opens fire on Cordoba, then directs his fire across the creek at Farr, who is almost at the same elevation as Ketchum and more than 150 yards away. "Come down here," Ketchum yells, taunting his stalkers.

Elliott, Henry M. Love, Cordoba and James H. Morgan rain fire on Ketchum's position, until one of Morgan's bullets finds its

Continued on page 52

Anatomy of an Ambush



Lawmen

Wilson "Memphis" Elliott, the leader of the posse, who had gone out in the morning with teamster **James H. Morgan** to locate the outlaw camp.

Sheriff Edward J. Farr, of Huerfano County, Colorado.

William Hiram Reno, chief of detectives for the Colorado & Southern Railways.

Henry M. Love, a local cowboy, who had been skinning diseased cattle before joining the posse.

Frank H. Smith, a New Yorker, who was staying at a local ranch.

Perfecto Cordoba, a local who joined the posse because "I thought we would not find anything."

Santiago Serna (or Silva), who turned back, or was sent home, before the posse made it to the outlaw camp.

Continued from page 50

mark and breaks the outlaw's left arm just below the shoulder.

With both Lay and Ketchum temporarily out of the fight, Carver widens his arc of fire, sending rounds down both sides of the creek. All the posse members hug the trees and rocks. As Farr peers around his tree, trying to find Carver's position, a bullet creases his right arm near the wrist. Farr wraps the wound with his bandanna and yells across to Reno, asking whether he saw where the last shot came from. Before Reno answers, another bullet strikes Farr's tree, goes through it and pierces his chest, near the heart. Farr collapses and dies on top of the wounded Smith.

(Some historians believe the shooter was Elzy Lay, who momentarily regained consciousness, saw Farr, fired once—hitting the lawman in the wrist—and then deliberately shifted his aim to the center of the tree trunk. Others refute this and maintain Carver shot Farr both times.)

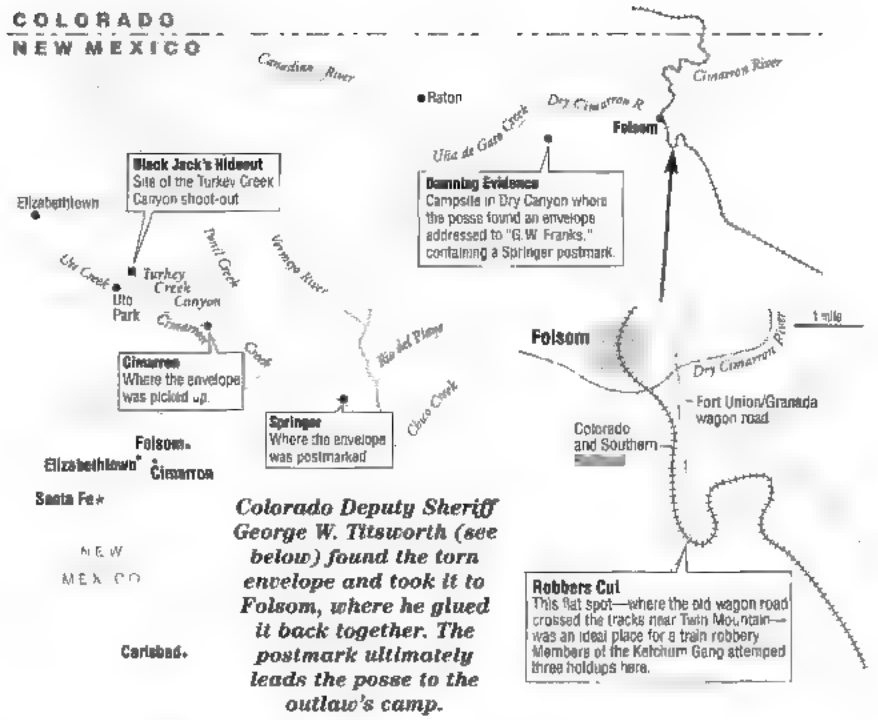
After Farr is shot, Lay again faints.

In the gathering darkness, the posse members still can't locate Carver, who continues firing at will.

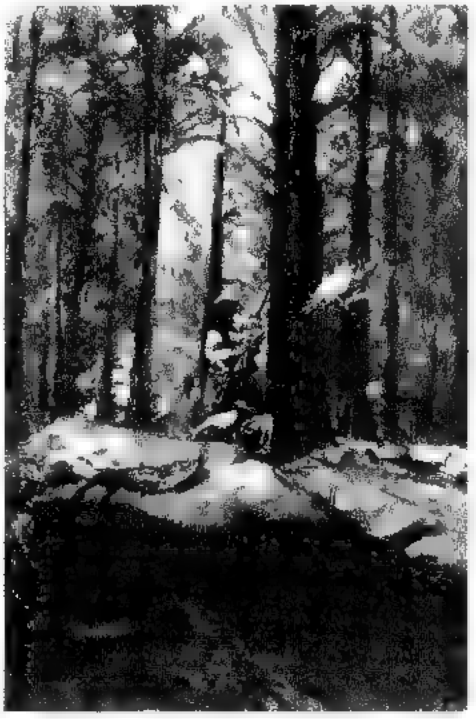
With Reno and the other officers on the far side of the gulch silenced, Carver concentrates on Elliott's squad, which is spread out on Carver's left flank. One of Carver's bullets slams into the thigh of Love, smashing a contaminated knife and driving the poisoned blade deep into his flesh.

At about 6 p.m., Carver fires two final shots. A full hour later, the posse is still hunkered down, paralyzed with fear. A heavy rain begins to fall, and yet, the posse waits for darkness before moving. For the entire time, Smith is moaning and yelling, with the dead body of Farr on top of him.

All three outlaws disappear into the wet darkness.



Colorado Deputy Sheriff George W. Titsworth (see below) found the torn envelope and took it to Folsom, where he glued it back together. The postmark ultimately leads the posse to the outlaw's camp.



The posse seeks cover behind trees, but a steel-jacketed bullet fired by one of the outlaws penetrates Sheriff Farr's tree and strikes him near the heart, killing him.

Colorado lawman George W. Titsworth (c. 1909) was among the posse members sent from Trinidad, Colorado, to New Mexico to pursue the robbers of the Colorado and Southern "Texas Flyer." He pasted together the envelope that leads the posse to Cimarron but does not participate in the Turkey Creek Canyon shoot-out.

– All photos True West Archives –

Where Was Black Jack?

Tradition maintains Tom "Black Jack" Ketchum was kicked out of his own gang over an argument regarding the division of spoils. Less than a month after the Turkey Creek shoot-out (the second Folsom train robbery), Tom single-handedly tried to hold up a train at Robbers Cut. The result was disastrous and ultimately cost him his life, but that's another *Classic Gunfight*. Today, the Turkey Creek Canyon outlaw campsite is still known as Black Jack's Hideout.

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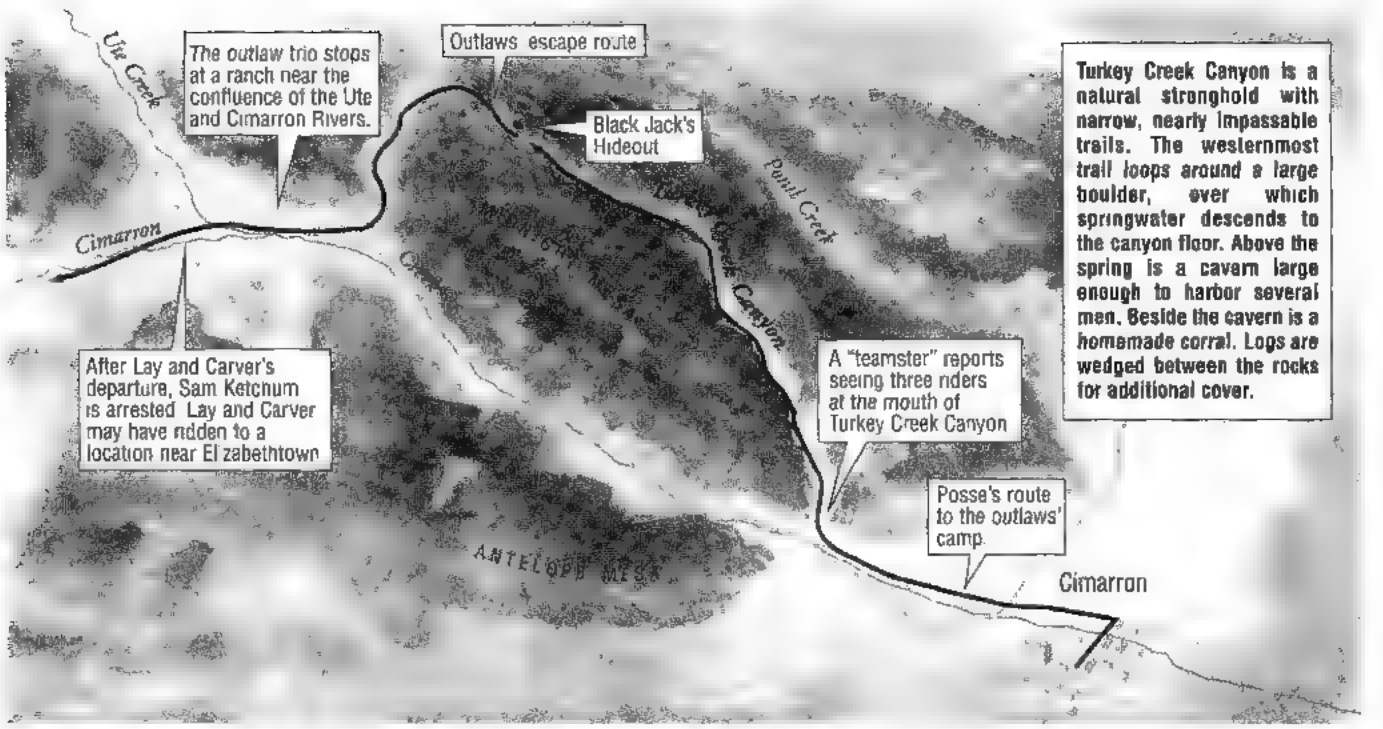
Ute Creek
The outlaw trio stops at a ranch near the confluence of the Ute and Cimarron Rivers.
Outlaws' escape route
Black Jack's Hideout
Point Creek
Turkey Creek Canyon
Turkey Creek Canyon is a natural stronghold with narrow, nearly impassable trails. The westernmost trail loops around a large boulder, over which springwater descends to the canyon floor. Above the spring is a cavern large enough to harbor several men. Beside the cavern is a homemade corral. Logs are wedged between the rocks for additional cover.
Cimarron
After Lay and Carver's departure, Sam Ketchum is arrested. Lay and Carver may have ridden to a location near Elizabethtown
A "teamster" reports seeing three riders at the mouth of Turkey Creek Canyon
Posse's route to the outlaws' camp
ANTELOPE MESA
Cimarron

Sam Ketchum's friends could not believe he became an outlaw. He had a family and was a respectable cowboy until he took up the Owlhoot Trail (in his 40s!) with his younger brother Tom.

The Outlaws

Sam Ketchum, 45

Elzy Lay, 31

Will Carver, 30

The Fourth Outlaw?

Most of the eye-witnesses (but not all) claimed four outlaws robbed the Folsom train, so why were there only three in camp at Turkey Creek Canyon? Some cite Ben "The Tall Texan" Kilpatrick as the fourth outlaw, although this is doubtful. Detained near Raton on July 19 and charged with mail robbery, Red Weaver is a more likely candidate. He was picked up on a complaint sworn out by Detective Reno, but was released by U.S. Marshal Foraker. Did Weaver give information in exchange for his release? Author Jeffrey Burton thinks so.

Aftermath: Odds & Ends

When Elzy Lay opened his eyes, he saw Will Carver standing over him. After Carver helped him to his feet, the two located Sam Ketchum, crept to their horses and quietly made their way up the canyon. As they headed into the mountains, Carver and Lay (who was also badly wounded) rode on either side of Ketchum and held him in the saddle.

•

The next day, a relief posse headed by U.S. Marshal Creighton M. Foraker searched the outlaw hideout in Turkey Creek Canyon and found bedding rolled up in tarps, a bloody hat and slicker, a packsaddle tree, some provisions, frying pans and a large coffee pot. "Bloody splotches" covered the ground, which was littered with empty .30-40 cartridge cases. At the far end of the battleground lay a dead horse with its saddle still on. A Winchester boot and rope were still on the saddle. (Not mentioned at the subsequent trial was a second horse so badly wounded it had to be killed.) Also found was an empty valise which had been slashed open and was assumed to have held the train robbery loot. In a box nearby were "about forty pounds of dynamite." Scattered

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After the fight, the outlaws made their way out of the canyon on horseback. Will Carver and a badly wounded Elzy Lay held mortally wounded Sam Ketchum in his saddle.

about the sniper's nest, where Carver had done his shooting, were 23 shells.

•

Sam Ketchum could not stay in the saddle and finally urged his comrades to leave him. The outlaws left Ketchum at a ranch house near Ute Creek and he was captured and taken to Santa Fe, where he died of blood poisoning on July 24.

•

Posse member Henry Love died from his wounds and was buried at Springer, New Mexico. The knife that he had carried in his pocket was hit by Carver's bullet, which drove the blade into his thigh. Unfortunately, Love had been using the knife to skin diseased cattle that had contracted blackleg. By the time doctors saw Love, some 18 hours after he was shot, they could do nothing for him.

Because of the severity of Love's wound, it was initially reported the outlaws were using exploding bullets (see Associated Press quote, p. 51), but this turned out to be false.

Will Carver in the famous "Fort Worth Five" Wild Bunch photo made in 1900. Carver was shot to death by Texas police in 1901.

•

Of the seven posse members, only Elliott, Morgan and Cordoba escaped unscathed.

•

It is believed Will Carver and Elzy Lay received medical aid at a ranch near Elizabethtown—or E-Town as the locals call it—New Mexico. Four weeks after the Turkey Creek fight, Lay was captured at a cow camp 25 miles east of Carlsbad, New Mexico (see left inset map, p. 52). Tried and sentenced to life in prison, Lay was pardoned in 1906 and lived until 1934.

Will Carver made it safely to Texas and rejoined Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid just in time for their famous group photo (left).

•

We recommend: Jeffrey Burton's *Dynamite and Six-shooter*, which was published in 1970. Burton's book has been out of print for some time so it brings a tall price at Old West used bookstores. Burton is currently finishing a revised edition of his classic book and at twice the length of the original, it sounds formidable. Burton lives in England and has no telephone or computer, because as he puts it, "this enables me to get something done once in a while."

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BY MEGHAN SAAR

And Starring Pancho Villa as Himself

The lens is mightier than the sword

Antonio Banderas, starring as Pancho Villa in HBO Film's new biopic, heads into battle with the Villistas.

– All HBO Film images by Rico Torres –

Americans rallying behind Pancho Villa and the Mexican Revolution may not be how you've heard the story, but two years before Pancho Villa's infamous raid on Columbus, New Mexico, the 1914 silent film *The Life of General Villa* was indeed a box office hit.

The story behind the film was as action-packed as the Villistas riding into battle, according to HBO Film's new Western *And Starring Pancho Villa as Himself*. This true story was directed by Bruce Beresford and filmed on location in the old Mexican silver mining town of Guanajuato. It airs on HBO in September.

And Starring Pancho Villa reveals the myths and truths behind Hollywood's first full-length action blockbuster and shows what audiences of the 1914 film missed out on.

After all, the revolution may not have spun off a new genre—newsreels—if it wasn't for the financial strains that the U.S. arms embargo put on Pancho Villa and his Division del Norte rebel forces.

For the first time ever, war coverage was shown to people who had never fought in a war. As the HBO movie reveals, it wasn't until after the newsreels of Pancho's battles were filmed that they were turned into a fictional film of his life.

Why newsreels?

Credit Pancho (played by Antonio Banderas) for ingeniously persuading American filmmakers D.W. Griffith (Colm Feore) and Harry Aitken (Jim Broadbent) to bankroll his army in exchange for unlimited access to film his army in combat.

Griffith, however, never puts his stamp on the 1914 *The Life of General Villa* because Aitken and him are busy making *The Birth of a Nation*. By sending Aitken's nephew, Frank Thayer (played by Eion Bailey) to Mexico to sign the deal, they unknowingly thrust Thayer and his crew—with their cameras rolling—in the midst of Villa's victory at Torreon.

"Mr. Aitken dispatched to General Villa's camp last Saturday a squad of four moving picture men with apparatus designed especially to take pictures on battlefields," reported the *New York Times* on January 7, 1914, in its article on the contract Villa had signed with Aitken's Mutual Film Company.

And no, the contract did not ask Villa to re-enact battle scenes and carry out attacks only during daylight hours, as the press incorrectly reported later, writes Friedrich Katz in his book, *The Life & Times of Pancho Villa*. The contract stated "that the Mutual Film Company was granted exclusive rights to film Villa's troops in battle, and that Villa would receive 20 percent of all revenues that the film produced."

Villa did wear a military uniform provided by the film company when the producers felt his slouch sombrero and sweater weren't prestigious enough, Katz writes.

According to *And Starring Pancho Villa*, this mixture of fact and fiction is just the beginning of Pancho's relationship with Hollywood. Hollywood scripts Villa's life to match American tastes. Villa is transformed from a sharecropper into a rich, independent rancher. His villains are two Federales who rape and murder his younger sister. A vengeful Villa kills one culprit, while the other gets away. It isn't

Antonio Banderas is convincing in his portrayal of the fierce, revolutionary Mexican general.

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A publicity photo of Yaqui Indian warriors protecting a U.S. cameraman during the Battle of Naco. The fledgling movie industry had numerous film crews documenting the Mexican Revolution.

– Courtesy Chet & Lindy Downs –

until the battle at Torreon that Villa catches and shoots the remaining villain.

Other major players involved with Villa's silent biopic were William Cabanne (played in the HBO movie by Michael McKean), who the director Aitken eventually assigns to the film; actor Raoul Walsh (Kyle Chandler), who gets his big break as the young Pancho Villa and John Reed (Matt Day), the war correspondent for *Metropolitan Magazine*, who travels with Pancho Villa's army during the Mexican Revolution. Kirk Douglas also makes a cameo appearance as Sen. Albert Fall, the politician blamed for the 1914 Teapot Dome scandal (and the inspiration for the famous phrase, the fall guy).

And Starring Pancho Villa promises to show us the inside story on the Hollywood Pancho Villa, which endeared Americans to Pancho's cause. HBO's movie is a swift change from other recent pop culture films on Pancho. *Between Pancho Villa and a Naked Woman* (1995) stars Jesus Ochoa as the ghost of Pancho, who is being channeled by one of his chroniclers, Adrian, to help Adrian win back the love of his ex-girlfriend. The strangest Pancho Villa feature to come out is 1999's *The Adventures of Young Indiana Jones: Spring Break Adventure*, which stars Mike Moroff as Pancho, who kidnaps young Indy and sweeps him into the Mexican revolution.

When the real Pancho Villa told reporters on his deathbed, "Don't let it end like this, tell them I said something," he probably didn't plan for the wide range of perspectives future filmmakers would have for his character. HBO's new biopic is definitely closer to the historical Pancho than anything done in the past.

WESTERNS IN THE WORKS

David Roger (left) and Ryan Browning star in the new Butch Cassidy movie.

– By Kimberly Butler for NBC –

NBC heads down the outlaw trail with *The Legend of Butch and Sundance*, scheduled to air in the fall. **David Roger** as Butch Cassidy and **Ryan Browning** as the Sundance Kid are joined by **Rachelle Lefevre** as Etta (Ethel) Place and **Blake Gibbons** as Durango. NBC may turn the movie into a series. When it snowed during the shooting (left), Producer **Damian Gonczewski** said the snow added "so much to the production value." The movie is currently being shot on a ranch 30 miles west of Calgary, Alberta, with more shooting planned at Calgary's Heritage Park.

The Wild Bunch sure is popular these days. Warner Bros. Pictures joins the race with its screen adaptation of **Sam Peckinpah's** *The Wild Bunch*. This new Western sets the gang's last robbery in the midst of contemporary Mexico's drug culture. Screenwriter **David Ayer** says that Peckinpah's *Wild Bunch* was about crazy, transitional times and that we are now "hitting our own world of change."

John Travolta, who reportedly demands $23 million a picture, has denied he is in the running to make *The Outlaws* (about two New York lawyers who move to Wyoming in 1899). Although Travolta added, "I'd love to do a Western."

Buck Taylor.

– By Al Fridge –

Buck Taylor is spouting a new look after producers from *The Alamo* made him shave his mustache. His facial hair was inappropriate for the 1820s.

Monte Walsh was a huge winner for TNT, roping in first place for the cable network, according to Nielsen estimates for the January ratings period (Dec. 30-Jan. 26). The credit is largely due to *Monte Walsh*, which brought in 7.52 million viewers on opening night and 5.23 million for the repeat airing the following night. With **Tom Selleck** starring in its new Western *The Empty Land*, TNT is surely as happy as a hog in mud.

Westerns channel on Encore: In August, watch the portrayal of American Indians in films, such as *Cheyenne Autumn*, *The Vanishing American* and *Dances with Wolves*. (An original documentary will also chronicle the stereotypical depictions of Indians in Westerns.) In September, gear up for some Spaghetti Westerns, such as *The Treasure of Silver Lake*, *Billy Two Hats* and *A Fistful of Dynamite*.

"I bought up every issue of *True West* . . . Then, while I was making a personal appearance in Austin, Texas, Joe Austell Small, publisher of Western Publications, said to me, 'John Cash, you'd be a good feller to ride the river with.' . . . Joe Small rode the river with me, and we became the best of friends."

—Johnny Cash

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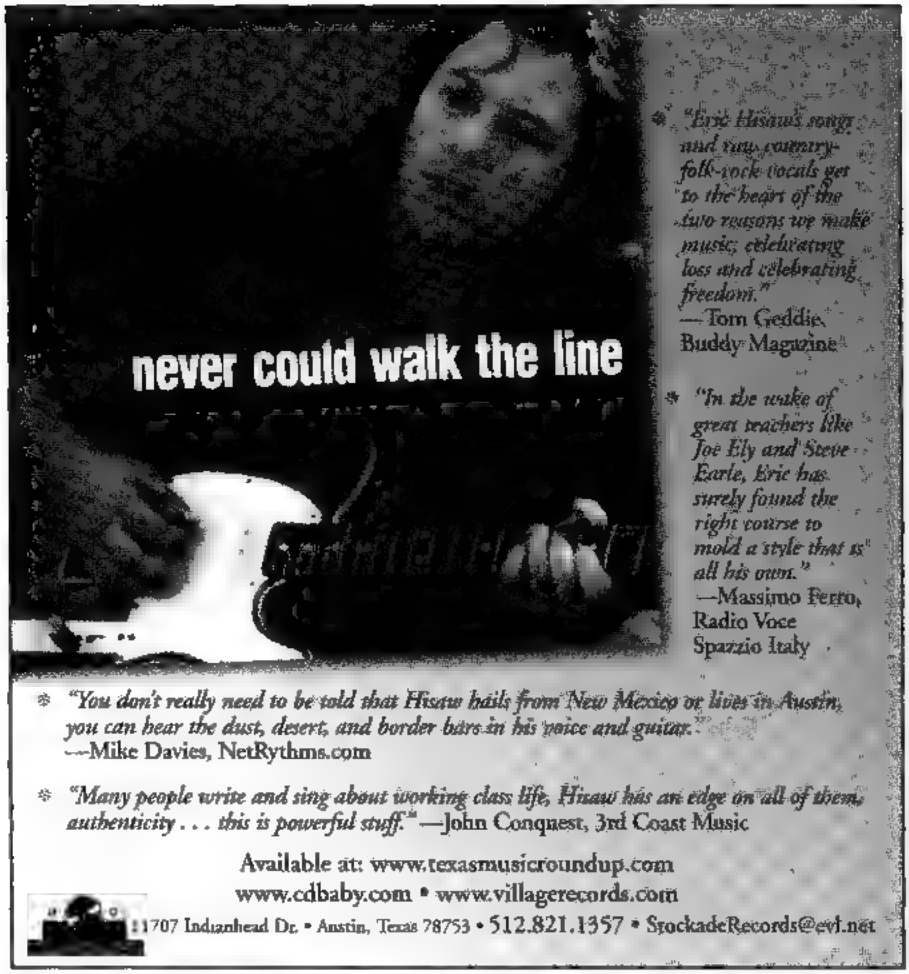

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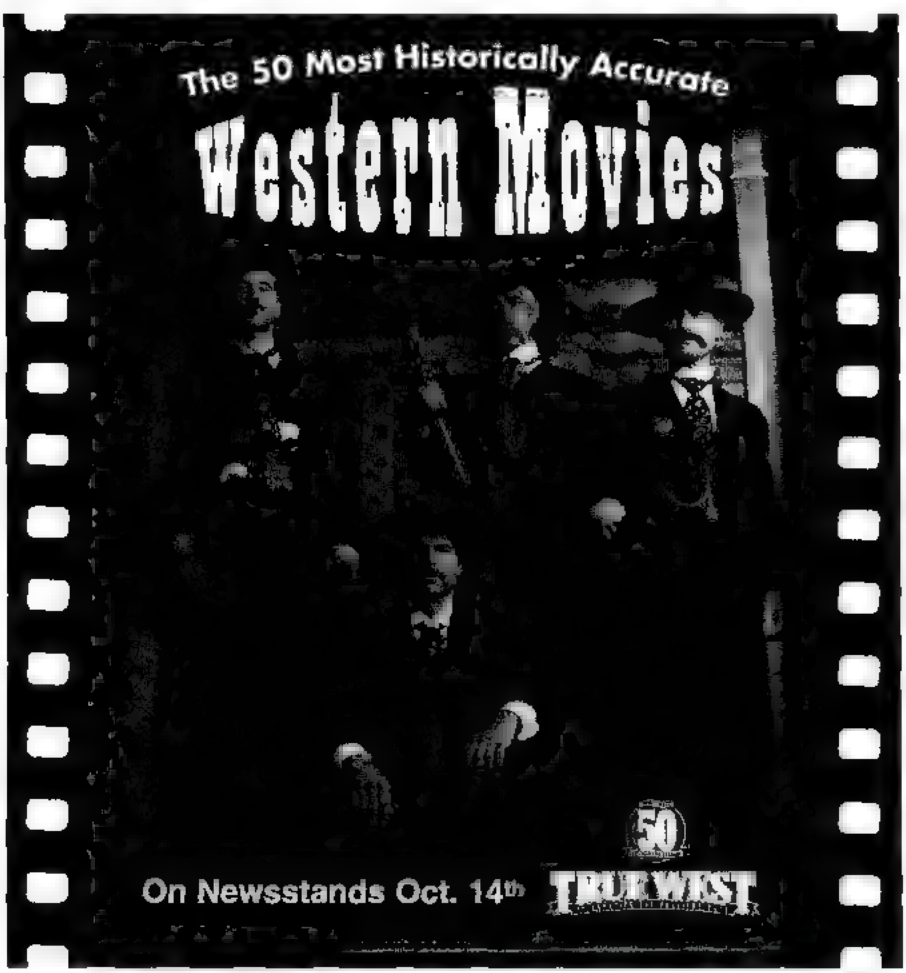

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TRUE WEST

On Newsstands Oct. 14th

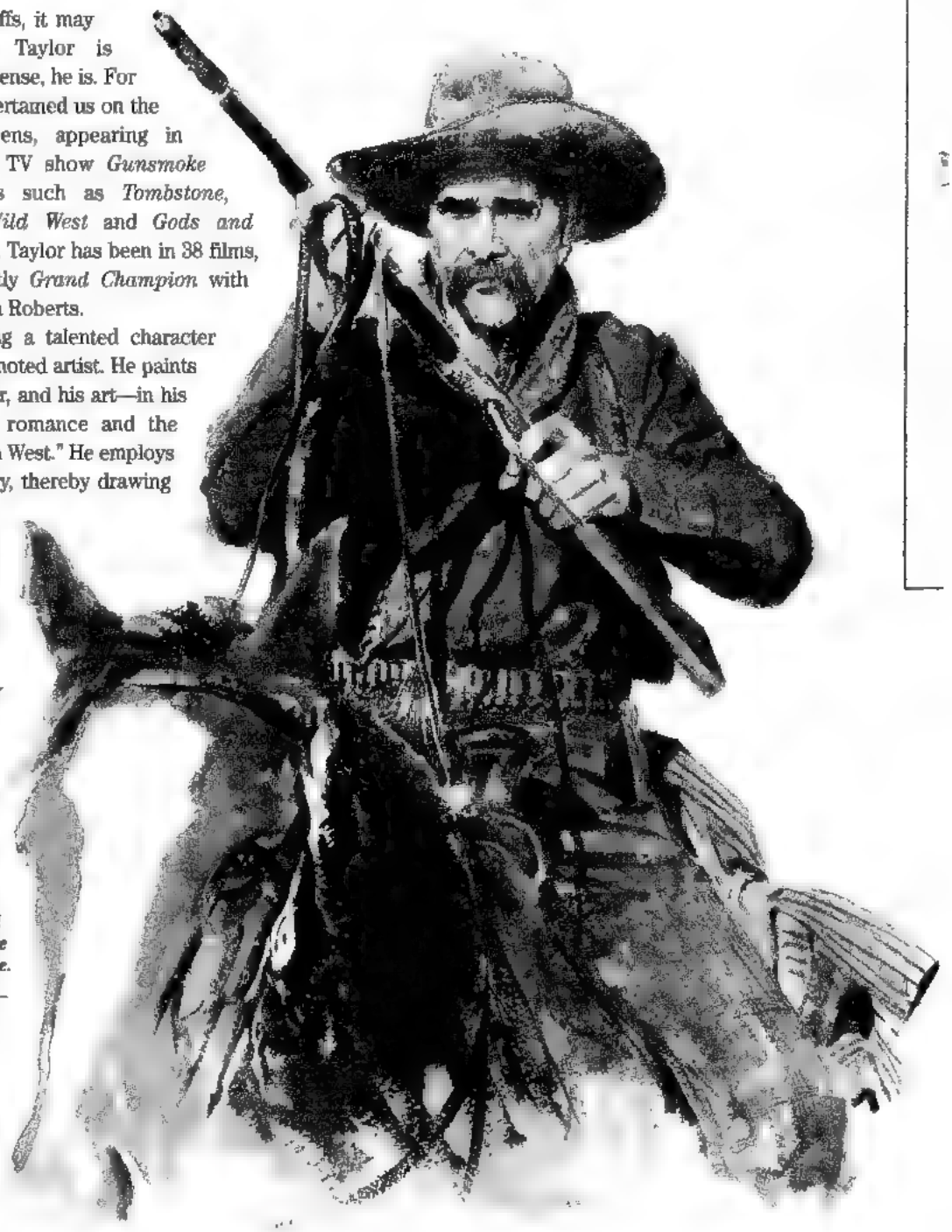
BY R.G. ROBERTSON

From *Gunsmoke* to Watercolors

The art of Buck Taylor.

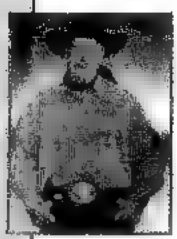
To Western film buffs, it may seem as if Buck Taylor is everywhere, and in a sense, he is. For over 40 years he's entertained us on the big and small screens, appearing in everything from the TV show *Gunsmoke* (1967-75) to movies such as *Tombstone*, *Gettysburg*, *Wild Wild West* and *Gods and Generals*. All together, Taylor has been in 38 films, including most recently *Grand Champion* with George Strait and Julia Roberts.

In addition to being a talented character actor, Taylor is also a noted artist. He paints primarily in watercolor, and his art—in his words—reflects "the romance and the reality of the American West." He employs an economy of scenery, thereby drawing the viewer's focus to his paintings' central subjects. Like his performances in film, Taylor's art is subtle and understated.



Call to Arms ***was inspired by the tragic events of 9.11. The determination in the cowboy's face as he raises his rifle is akin to America's mood as the nation turned its attention away from mourning and toward punishing those responsible.***

– Artwork courtesy Buck Taylor –



Buck Taylor.

– By Ted Gaosi –

Visit www.bucktaylor.com for more information about Buck Taylor's artwork.

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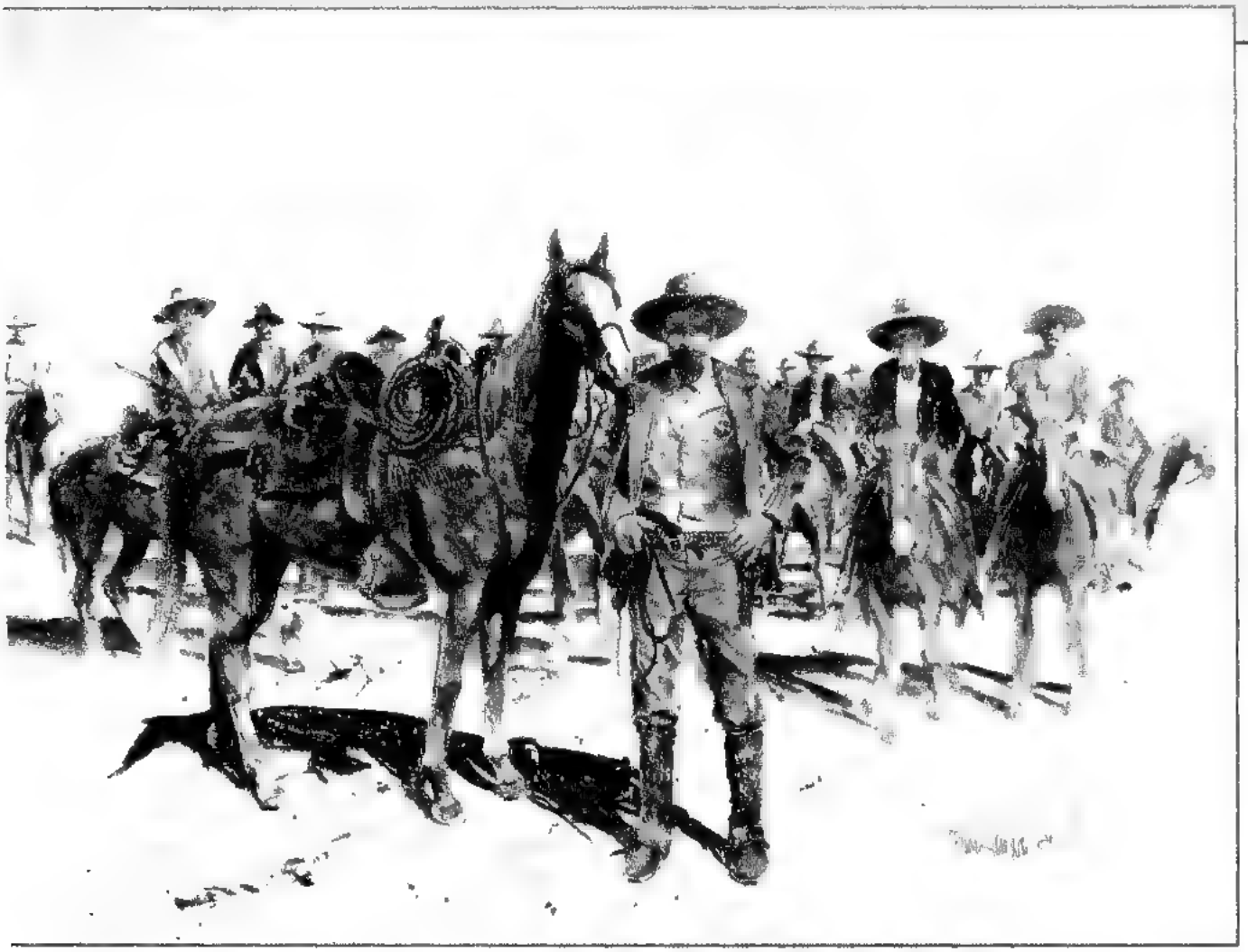

Texas Rangers *(above). What does Buck Taylor like about Texas? "Everything!" He finds the Texas Ranger "so noble, such a part of Texas and its history."*

Pardners *(above). Taylor likens painting with watercolor to fly-fishing. "One mistake and it's lost. It's unforgiving but spontaneous."*

BY CORINNE BROWN

I See By Your Outfit . . .

SASS and CMSA members sport Old West fashion.

The Western frontier may have disappeared but its clothing never did: look no further than the Single Action Shooting Society (SASS) or its spin-off, the Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association (CMSA). Billed as "fun for the entire family," their exciting meets are reviving the art of target shooting (rifles, shotguns and pistols) and Victorian clothing.

Competitors must wear authentic period garb, circa 1880-1910, reflecting the Old West. For judging, the gear, guns and clothing all count. Outfits can be geographical in style or based on a real person or group (from Bat Masterson to the U.S. Cavalry— re-enactors need to know the biographical details too). Expect to see ladies as gunslingers or dance hall floozies, and gentlemen as dandies, desperados, lawmen or drovers. Whether wearing corsets and bustles or breeches and gallowses (suspenders), participants love the romance and creativity the costumes provide.

Sass member Rick Jones (left), known as "Calvin N. Hobbs," wears a Gen. "Black Jack" Pershing costume.

– ALL PHOTOS COURTESY LILY RODGERS –

Champion Cowgirl Shooters

CMSA rider Lily Rodgers (below, left) and Lynne Merrick, 2002 SASS Western Nationals Champion and 2002 CMSA National High Points Champion Cowgirl: Rodgers wears an original, 1920s antique leather, split riding skirt; grey, herring-bone, wool Wahmaker vest; yellow, cotton wild rag and high-heeled Olathe boots with a spur shelf on the heels. Her leather-studded cuffs are by Wild West Mercantile of Phoenix, AZ. Merrick wears a black leather, split riding skirt with fringe, which was reproduced by Beauregard Originals of Gallatin Gateway, MT. Tonto Rim Trading Company of Seymour, IN, fashioned her hat, silk wild rag, tied Montana-cowboy-style and silver scarf slide.

Outfitter: Wahmaker by Scully

The official relationship between the sport and the wardrobe was cemented when apparel manufacturer Wahmaker, a longtime outfitter to the Western film industry, became the official clothier/sponsor of SASS. Marketing director Jim Carpenter sees a bright relationship ahead: the clothing makes the organization visually unique. Usually one or more components of any SASS outfit bears their brand; other pieces could be custom creations or labels such as Cattle Kate or Frontier. Whatever the members wear, the effects are memorable!

Corinne

CMSA Founder

Jim Rodgers wears a Biltmore "Boss of the Plains" hat; short, wool, Victorian-era Wahmaker necktie; wool Wahmaker vest; canvas "duckin" Wahmaker pants and one-piece, squared-toe Wild West Mercantile boots. Rodgers' holsters are from Gila River Leather of Phoenix, AZ, and his cuffs are from Gino D'Ambrose Saddlery of Phoenix, AZ. His quarter horse, Steppin' Bill, wears a Sawtooth saddle from Vernal, UT.

Tate Wilford, a CMSA rider, Western model and actor, wears a Wahmaker bandcollar shirt with leather shotgun chaps.

CMSA rider Jerry Hendrick (left) wears a pinch, crown, Arizona Peak hat; full-sleeved, cotton Wahmaker shirt and saddle-foxing Wahmaker pants.

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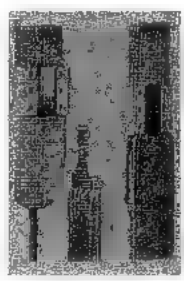

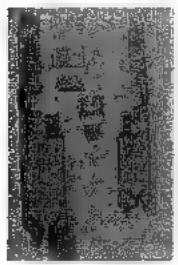

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BY JANA BOMMERSBACH

Wells Fargo's Newest History Museum

More Wyeths than anywhere and gold big enough to choke a horse.

You can almost smell the dust: you stand in front of N.C. Wyeth's oil painting called *The Ore Wagon* and the dust is so real, you walk away wanting a drink of water.

That painting will grace the walls of Wells Fargo bank's newest History Museum, opening in downtown Phoenix this October. It is one of the museum's 12 Wyeth oils—the largest collection of the artist ever presented in one place, noted Curator Connie Whalen.

Wells Fargo is well known for its impressive Western art collection and has exhibits in all the other major cities in its financial empire, but the Phoenix museum will be the first to show a collection of fine art, Whalen said.

The Pay-Stage *by N.C. Wyeth.*

– Courtesy Wells Fargo History Museum in Phoenix, AZ –

Many of Wyeth's paintings were commissioned illustrations for articles in such magazines as *Scribner's*. Whalen is in the process of locating all those publications to include in the museum. She's also found a delightful letter Wyeth wrote to his "Mama" in March 1909 reporting, "Last week I painted a picture which I called *The Pay-Stage*. *Scribner's* bought it quick and pronounced it the very best I ever did for them. You see, one never knows when he is doing something good."

See for yourself how good *The Pay-Stage* is when you visit the Phoenix museum, which will occupy 3,700 square feet in Wells Fargo's downtown complex at 100 W. Washington St.

Other fine art pieces include two Maynard Dixons, a Remington painting and four of his sculptures, and a Russell painting and three of his sculptures.

Considering the history of Wells Fargo—one of America's oldest continuously-operating companies—it couldn't have a historical museum without a stagecoach, since "We're seen as stagecoach experts," Whalen pointed out. The Phoenix Museum won't disappoint: they'll have to remove the front walls of the museum to get it inside, but a centerpiece of the museum will be the 1868 stagecoach that Wells Fargo used in Arizona to haul people, gold and goods.

The stagecoach was designed to hold nine people, but the coach is so tiny, it's hard to imagine that many people squeezing in. Whalen thought so, too, until her curiosity led her to measure the space she was given in a modern airplane. She found it was almost identical to what Wells Fargo offered on a stagecoach 150 years ago.

The museum, which is free and open during regular business hours, also will display a baseball-sized gold nugget—one of the largest ever mined in Arizona—and reproductions of a gold mine, assay office, railroad depot and express office. "We'll show the process of turning gold into currency—from rock to pocket," Whalen said.

The museum staff has developed a history plan for fourth graders and expects busloads of eager children to be regular visitors.

Wells Fargo also sponsors History Museums in San Francisco, Sacramento, Los Angeles, San Diego, Minneapolis and Portland.

For more information on the Wells Fargo History Museum in Phoenix, call 602-378-6587.

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- Mae West

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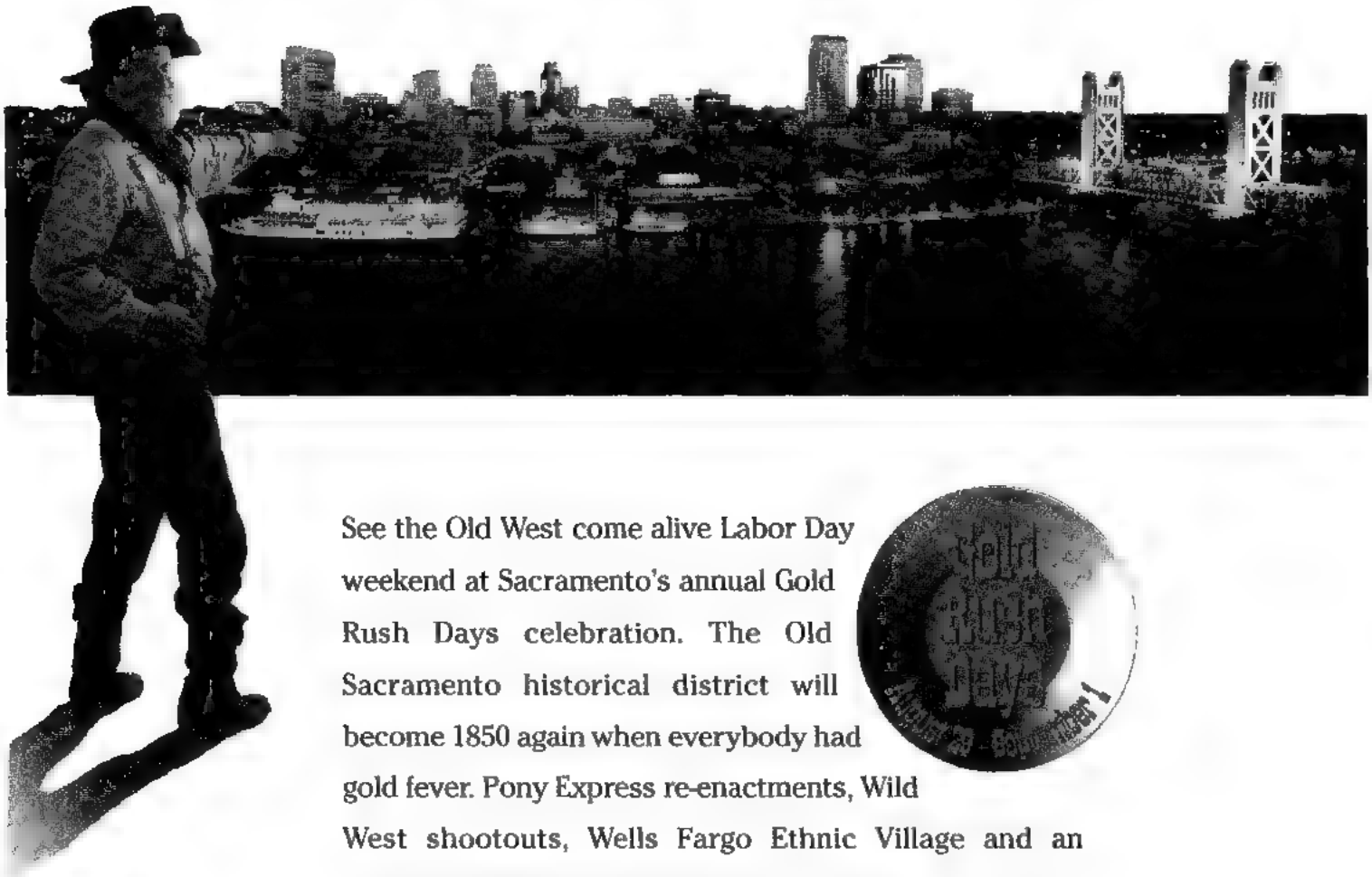

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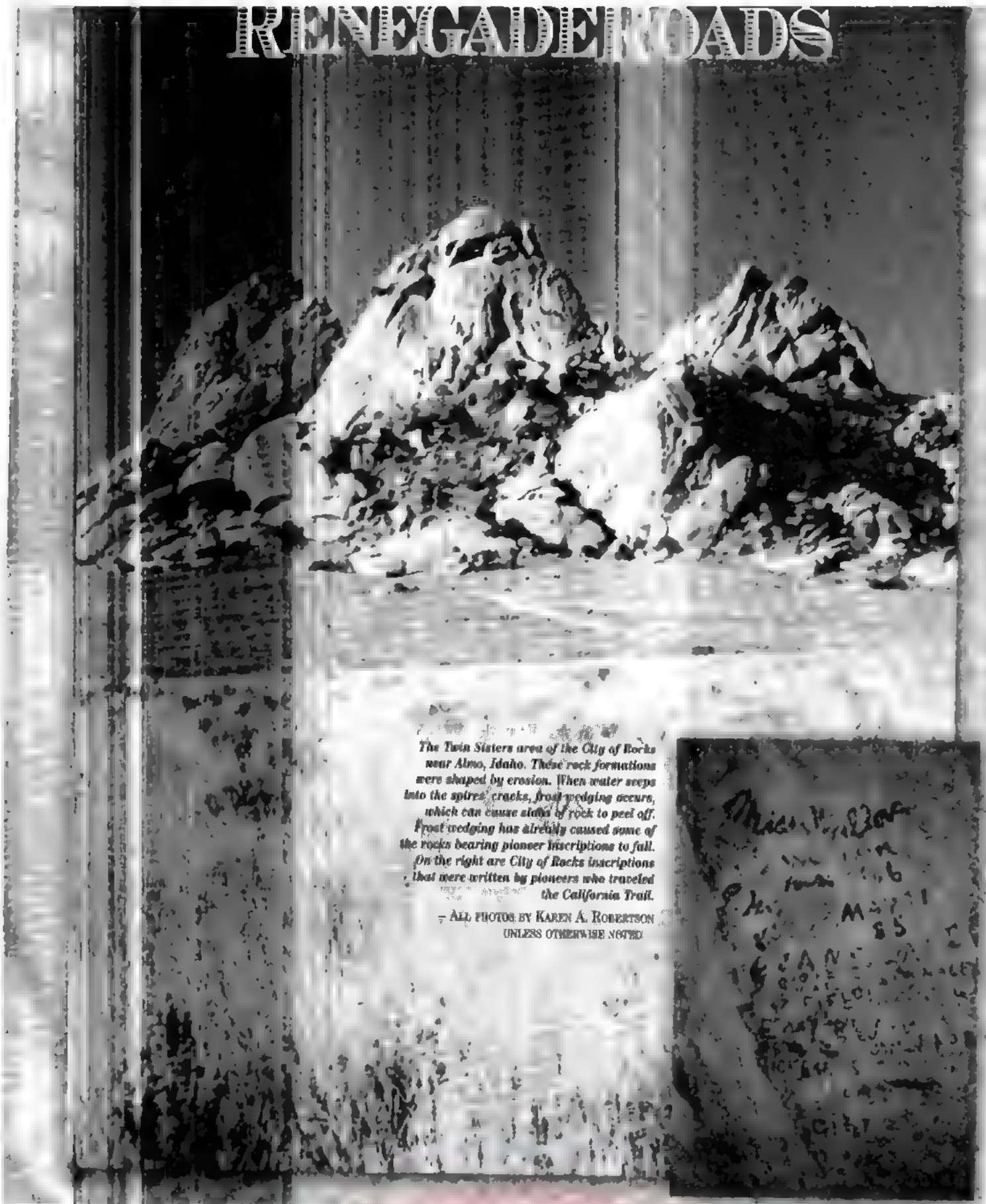

The Twin Sisters area of the City of Rocks near Almo, Idaho. These rock formations were shaped by erosion. When water seeps into the spires' cracks, frost wedging occurs, which can cause slabs of rock to peel off. Frost wedging has already caused some of the rocks bearing pioneer inscriptions to fall. On the right are City of Rocks inscriptions that were written by pioneers who traveled the California Trail.

— ALL PHOTOS BY KAREN A. ROBERTSON UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

BY BOB WILLIS

The California Trail

From Southeastern Idaho to Sacramento.

It didn't take long for Americans to get the itch. Lewis and Clark hadn't even returned home before fur traders were retracing parts of their route. Then in 1843, Americans of all stripes decided to "go Westering." Many began the 2,000 mile trek from the newly founded town of Independence, Missouri, heading toward new lives in Oregon and California.

It wasn't until late spring that the wagons set out. If the pioneers left too early, the grass would be too short to sustain continued grazing. But if they left too late, they risked depleted grazing lands. Then too, the wagons had to clear the Sierra Nevada Mountains before the autumn snows. Overall, the trip took about five months.

The main Oregon and California Trails followed the same route from Independence to Fort Hall in Southeast Idaho. Beyond Fort Hall, the trails split near the Raft River, with the Oregon Trail continuing alongside the Snake River, while the California Trail turned southwest toward Nevada's Humboldt River.

As the years passed, emigrants added shortcuts, such as the Hudspeth Cutoff just west of Soda Springs, Idaho. Similarly, as the main California Trail approached today's Reno, it split into several routes. Eventually modern highways and railroads followed the original corridors. Between Elko, Nevada, and Sacramento, California, Interstate 80 generally parallels the California Trail. In Western Nevada, the tracks of the Southern Pacific Railroad follow much of the trail.

If you plan to replicate portions of the California Trail, it's definitely worth paying a visit to the National Oregon-California Trail Center at Clover Creek in Montpelier, Idaho (at the intersection of U.S. 89 and 30). Montpelier is also where Butch Cassidy once robbed a bank, and each summer, the event is re-enacted on Main Street.

From Montpelier, the route follows the Bear River to Soda Springs, a landmark noted in many trail diaries. As Henry W. Puckett traveled through the Soda Springs area in 1850, he wrote in his diary about Sulphur Springs: "In the course of the afternoon we passed the celebrated Sulpher, Soda and Bear [Beer] Springs, all of which lay a little distance from what is known as the "Big Bend of Bear River," or the point where it makes an abrupt turn from north to south."

While visiting with the Mormons, Capt. John Codman described Sulphur Lake as a "literal lake of fire and brimstone" in his 1879 book, *The Mormon country; a summer with the Latter-day Saints.* "A few months before our visit, some curious persons . . . dropped their matches on the beach, and in a moment found their most vivid anticipations realized. The lurid flames circled the mad, fuming waters, and threw their light on the craigs [sic], and thus these amateur artists painted a horrible picture, which absolutely scared them as they looked from fire to lake and from lake to mountains, and then at the unearthly faces of each other."

Soda Springs was first settled by Mormon dissidents known as Morrisites. After an altercation between the Morrisites and the Mormon's Nauvoo Legion ended with 10 Morrisites and two Mormons dead, the remaining Morrisites were pardoned and put under the protection of Gen. Patrick E. Connor. They accompanied the general to the Soda Springs area in 1863 and began Morristown. To learn more about these first settlers, turn south off Highway 30, on the west end of Soda Springs, onto Third East and go one-half block until you reach the Church of the Latter-day Saints.

Emigrants not following Hudspeth's Cutoff (see map, p. 73) went on to Fort Hall (the original site is on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation). Today, you'll find a replica of Fort Hall in Pocatello's Ross Park. Here, you'll enter a world of "living history" and meet the trappers, traders, emigrants and 49ers who once passed through this trading post. During the peak of emigration, agents of the

SIDE ROAD

National Oregon-California Trail Center

Travel back to 1849 and visit with pioneers in the Clover Creek wagon encampment where pioneers once grazed their animals. Visit the mercantile, gun shop, livery stable and blacksmith shop. You can even enjoy a wagon ride down the original trail in the center of Montpelier, Idaho.

Information: www.oregontrailcenter.org or 866-847-3800

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Hudson's Bay Company were often on hand to welcome travelers, telling them of the advantages of California and urging them to go there instead of Oregon. This tactic was to slow emigration to the Northwest and protect the company's fur trading empire. (The Hudson's Bay Company had bought the post from Nathaniel Wyeth in 1836, with the title formally passing the following year.)

Bryon N. McKinstry came through Fort Hall on July 29, 1850, and he noted in his diary, "The fort is built of unburned or adobe brick in the form of a square, with towers at the corners. The walls are some 12 feet high, perhaps higher, as they are mostly houses, some of them are two stories high. Col. Grant has charge of the fort. They have one or two hundred horses, many of them brood mares and colts, but many fine geldings. But they would sell none."

West of Pocatello is the Massacre Rocks State Park. Although thousands of emigrants passed safely through the area, Indians killed 10 in 1862. If you visit today, you can still see ruts carved by the wagons.

The next landmark of note is the City of Rocks, now a national reserve near Almo, Idaho. The gigantic granite rocks reminded the emigrants of a rock city. The southern end of the preserve near Twin Sisters Rocks marked the point where the California Trail and Salt Lake Road joined. Travelers painted their names and date of passage on the rocks with keel tar or axle grease. Some inscriptions remain today.

Farther south at Wells, Nevada, formerly known as Humboldt Wells, you'll pass the origin of the Humboldt River. While here, be sure to visit the Trail of the 49ers Interpretive Center and Museum, which contains a wagon replica and authentic artifacts, including cooking utensils and wagon wheels. From Wells,

Sutter's Fort replica in Sacramento was built from 1891-1940, when it was finally opened to the public. The design came from a map published in 1847 in Damstadt, Germany. August 9 is Pioneer Demonstration Day, when docents teach visitors about pioneer life, and September 13 is Liberty History Day, commemorating Mexico ceding California to the United States in 1848.

– Courtesy Steve Prey –

emigrants followed this waterway for about 30 days (around 200 miles), even as the river meandered northwest. Some of those who had taken the Mormon Trail to Salt Lake City continued on via the Hastings Cutoff and joined the main trail near present-day Elko, Nevada. A little west of Elko, many emigrants chose to travel on the Emigrant Pass, a mountainous route that avoided the Narrows at Pahsade and the canyon beyond. After completing the exhausting pass, many emigrants turned back to the Humboldt River for fresh water and grass for their livestock.

In Elko, the Northeastern Nevada Museum recalls the rigors and history of the California Trail with maps, historical artifacts and items found along the trail in Nevada.

Daniel Tickner's journal from August 12, 1857, says he and his party were attacked by 75 to 100 Indians—using firearms and traditional bows and arrows—as they traveled along the Humboldt River. It was rumored that the Indians were in cahoots with some local white renegades who may have been Mormons. There's no proof, but the question lingers nearly 150 years later.

An unusual myth about one emigrant began when the railroad first came through this area. A couple of miles west of a crossing known as Gravelly Ford is the Maiden's Grave. The myth said that 16-year-old Lucinda Duncan was buried here in

SIDE ROAD

Marshall Gold Discovery Park

The California gold rush ignited when James Marshall discovered gold nuggets while working as an employee for John Sutter's sawmill. California's first historic landmark commemorated Marshall, who died in 1885, honoring him with a monument and statue at his grave site. This Coloma, California, park and museum has a working replica of Sutter's 1848 mill and exhibits on the gold rush. Visitors may also pan for gold in the American River.

Information: www.parks.ca.gov/ or 530-622-3470

[redacted]

SIDE ROAD

City of Rocks

California Trail pioneers used grease to sign their names on these rocks, which one thirsty emigrant saw as "water thrown up into the air from numerous artificial hydrants." The City of Rocks in Almo, Idaho, got its name on August 13, 1849, when emigrant James F. Wilkins thought the clustered rocks looked like a Stone Age rock city

Information: www.nps.gov/ciro/ or 208-824-5519

1862. Supposedly, railroad workers found and relocated her neglected grave. Actually, the grave was never moved and Lucinda was a grandmother who had died along the way.

At Winnemucca, the Humboldt River turns south, which was a relief to the emigrants. French Ford was a noted place where wagons crossed to Humboldt's south bank. Be sure to visit the Humboldt Museum and see its exhibit on the Black Rock Desert Mammoth Bones, which could provide clues about Northern Nevada's geological conditions during the Ice Age.

At Big Meadows, below Lovelock, wagon trains rested, grazed their livestock and cut grass for hay before the trek across the grueling 40-Mile-Desert. Many pioneers tried to cross the desert at night in order to avoid the daytime heat. Wagons occasionally became stuck in the soft sand and sometimes were abandoned. Household goods, even prized family heirlooms, were often jettisoned.

When the trail hit the Carson River, emigrant women took the opportunity to wash their family's clothing. As the clothes fluttered in the wind, drying on low bushes, they must've been quite a sight because the area became known as Ragtown.

From here, the Carson Pass Route headed due south. This favored trail over the Sierra Nevada was first used by the disbanded Mormon Battalion in 1848, returning to Salt Lake City. From

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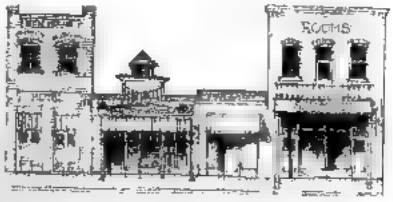

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SIDE ROAD

Interior of the Fort Hall replica in Pocatello, Idaho.

Fort Hall Replica

This replica of Fort Hall, located in Ross Park in Pocatello, Idaho, was the brainchild of Jack Alvord of the Idaho Territorial Commission. In 1960, he developed and supervised its construction from the original Hudson's Bay Company plans. The trading post replica has a frontier room, company hall, Indian room and factor's quarters, with a covered wagon and tipi outside.

Information: www.poky.net/forthall/ or 208-234-1795

Pleasant Valley (Placerville), the Mormons climbed east to the crest of the Sierras, then journeyed over Carson Pass, along the Carson River, to today's Fallon, Nevada. Heading northwest, the battalion came to the Truckee River where the Mormons then rejoined the California Trail.

The most famous party to make the journey was the Donner-Reed party in 1846. The affluent Donners and their companion James Reed carried far too many possessions. (If they were to take that same trip today, it would be in a stretched motor home, with a trailered ATV, extra air conditioner and satellite dish.) The party got a late start and rushed to catch up with the last of the year's emigrants. At Fort Bridger, the party made its first fatal mistake.

Based on information from a guidebook published a year before, the party members decided to shorten their trip by taking a new cutoff. While crossing the desert, they lost nearly 100 oxen. By October 20, they had only reached the eastern slopes of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Snow already covered the ridges as they struggled on. While some members abandoned their possessions and pushed on to the Sacramento Valley, the remainder of the party attempted to survive the coming winter and await a rescue. When rescuers finally arrived, they found the survivors had cannibalized those who had died of freezing or starvation. Of the 81 travelers who had reached the pass in early October, only 47 survived.

Not far from today's Carson City, John Reese established Mormon Station in 1851 (renamed Genoa). Mormon Station was the first settlement in Nevada and its Main Street lies on the California Trail. Reese provided much needed provisions, such as livestock, to those using the Carson Pass. Emigrants traveling through the pass were now in California and a short distance from Sacramento.

Today, if you fill your SUV Prairie Schooner, take off from Independence, Missouri, and follow a semblance of the trail to its end in Sacramento, you'll complete the journey in about three or four days. That's about 30 times faster than the original pioneer trek required. But think of the grand adventure your haste will make you miss. Instead, slow down and stop at the historical points along the way. It's not the 1850s, but you'll enjoy traveling almost 2,000 miles of American history. ★

Bob Willis is an award-winning travel writer and freelance photographer living in Scottsdale, Arizona.

SIDE ROAD

Sutter's Fort

John Sutter received a 48,000-acre land grant in the Sacramento Valley from Mexico in 1839 and created California's earliest settlement: an agricultural empire he named New Helvetia (New Switzerland). After Sutter sent aid to the Donner party that was trapped in the Sierra Nevada Mountains in 1847, news of his hospitality spread and attracted many early emigrants to his trading post. Sutter's Fort was all that remained of New Helvetia after Sutter's other properties were overrun by those seeking gold.

Information: www.parks.ca.gov/ or 916-445-4422

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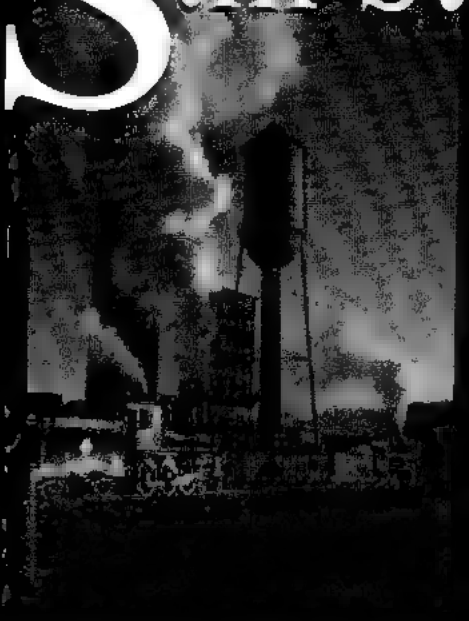

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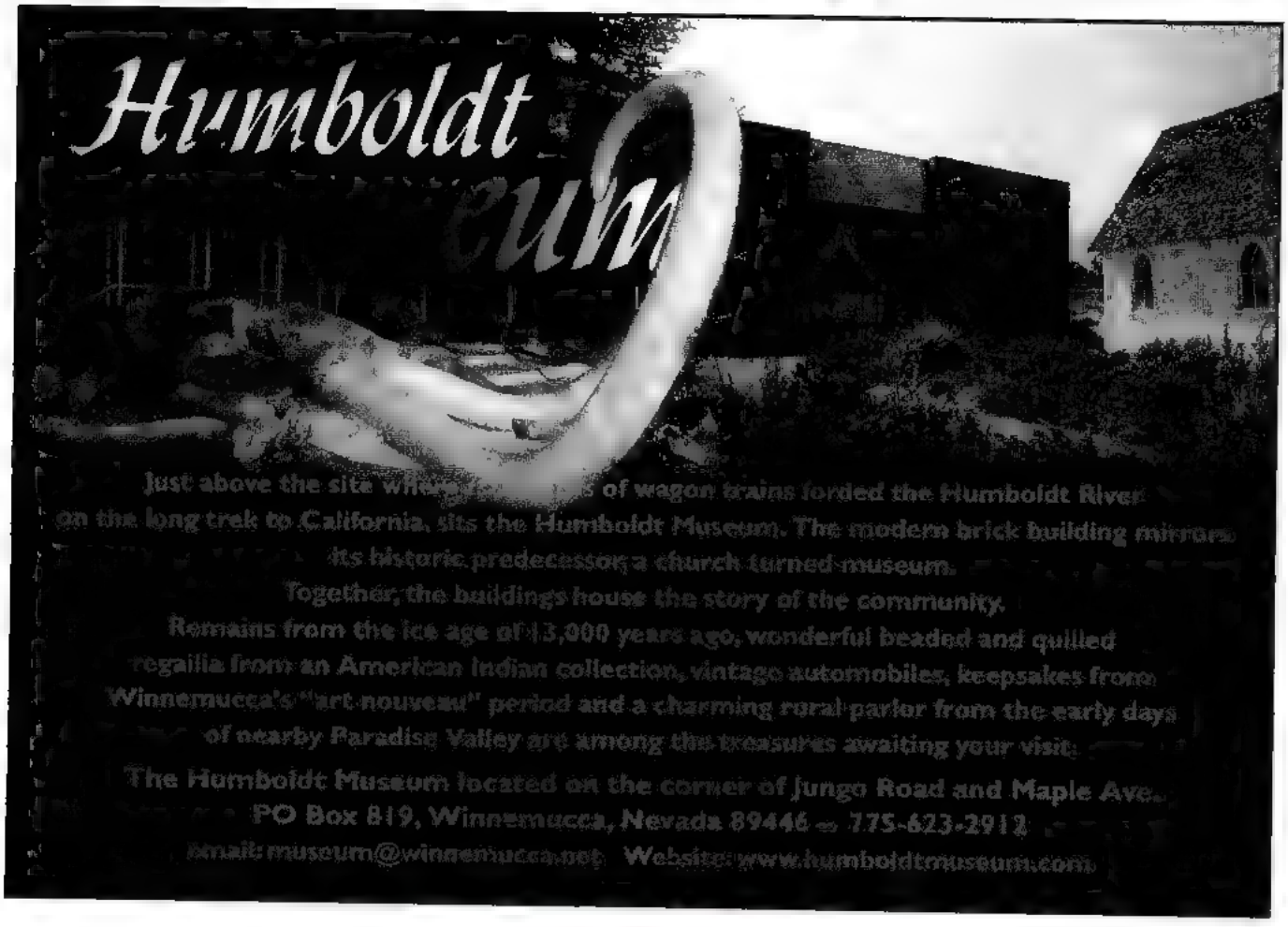

Just above the site where [illegible]s of wagon trains forded the Humboldt River on the long trek to California, sits the Humboldt Museum. The modern brick building mirrors its historic predecessor, a church turned museum.

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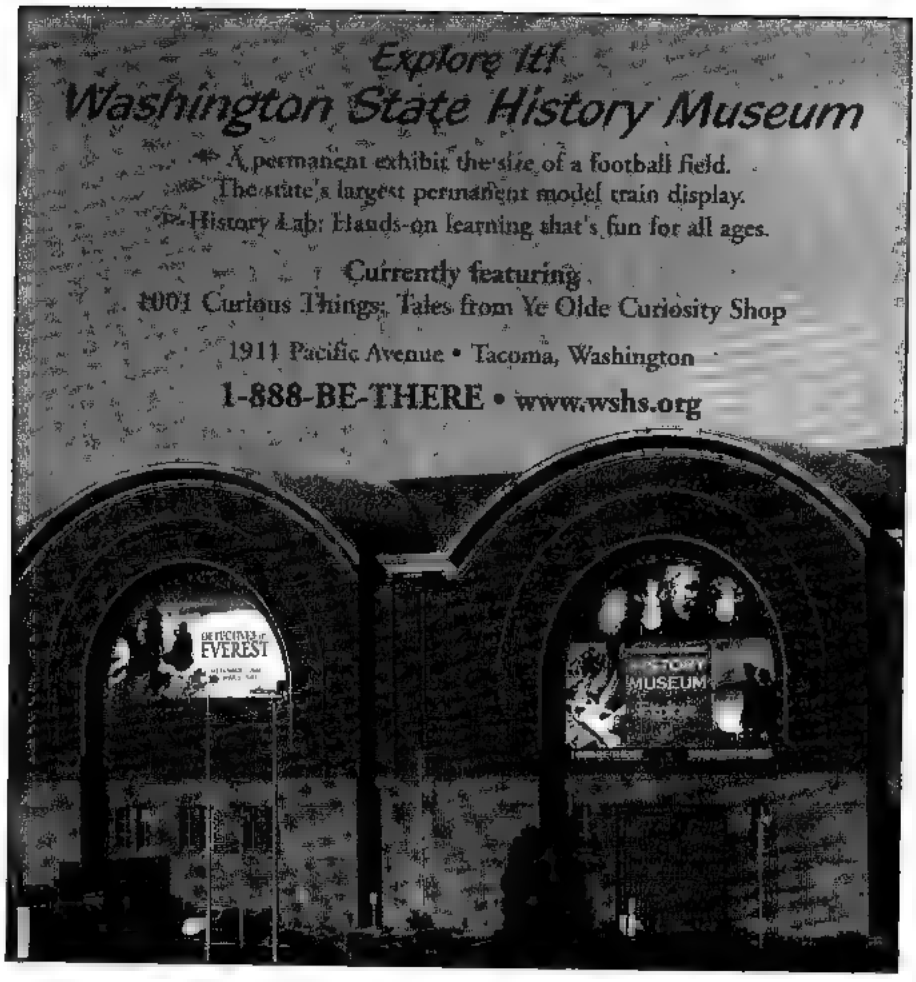
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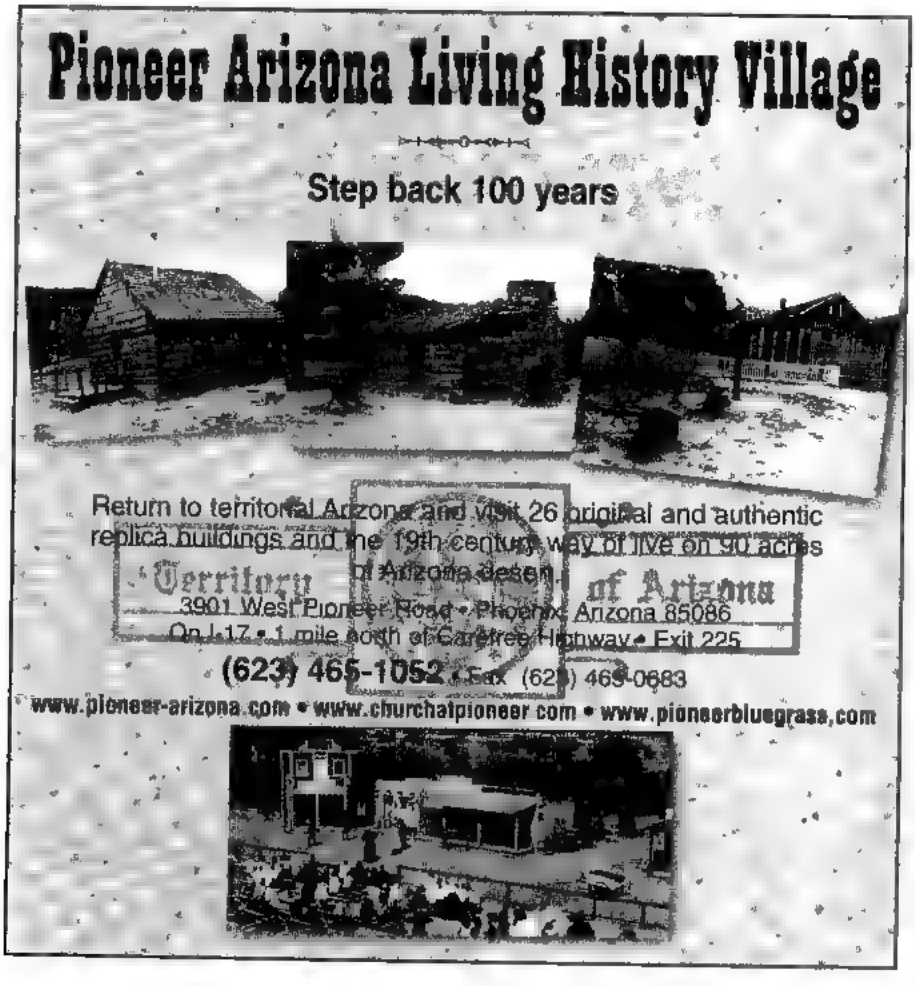
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All Correct Corral

Origin of the term "O.K."

For those of you who still think O.K. refers to the "Old Kinderhook" 1840 Martin Van Buren presidential campaign, etymologist Allen Walker Read was the man to set you straight.

Although Read died on October 16, 2002, his quest to stamp out the legend he started—yes, it was he who first tooted the Kinderhook horn as the original source—has changed our understanding of the term.

Anyone who's been exposed to Internet slang, such as using kewl instead of cool, can identify with the Anti-Bell-Ringing Society—an 1830s group of Bostonians from whom the term originated—or rather the A.B.R.S. (Although its name suggests the A.B.R.S. opposed bell ringing, the source of this abbreviation was actually the group's opposition to the Boston Common Council, who wanted to stop townspeople from ringing dinner bells.)

The A.B.R.S.' love of abbreviations led to a Bostonian fad of deliberately misspelling them. For example, the group used K.G. for no go (know go).

Newspapers of the day latched onto this craze, which on March 23, 1839, led the Boston *Morning Post* to publish a humorous reply to a Providence newspaper, which had suggested that if the A.B.R.S. returned home from its New York meeting by way of Providence, the Providence editor would "have the 'contribution box,' et ceteras, O.K.—all correct" to sponsor the group.

It was this editor's note that Read cited as the first use of the term O.K.

In 1941, as an assistant for the *Dictionary of American English*, Read began a quest to track down the O.K. source. He believed Van Buren had started it all until another academic found an earlier usage. Fueled by competition, and perhaps embarrassment, Read dug deeper and located the earliest known source to date.

The gunfight near the all correct corral? Nah, we'll stick with O.K.

—**Meghan Saar**

BY JOANN ROE

City of Museums

Take a day trip to Tacoma, Washington.

Tacoma got its start in 1833 when the Hudson's Bay Company opened the Fort Nisqually trading post at the south end of Puget Sound. The original site wasn't in Tacoma, but that didn't deter the city fathers from recreating the fort in Point Defiance Park. Today, the Fort Nisqually replica is but one of many Tacoma museums that celebrate the city's past.

Near the fort is Camp 6, a logging museum suitably secluded among tall Douglas fir trees in the 196-acre Point Defiance Park. Children delight in climbing on the massive logging machinery and riding the logging train. The park is also worth a visit in its own right and contains a zoo, trails, beaches, picnic grounds and a brilliant rhododendron garden.

In 1849, upstart Americans established Fort Steilacoom—10 miles away from Fort Nisqually—to strengthen the United States' claim to today's Washington State. All that remain are a sutler's store, four dwellings or offices and a 19th-century cannon.

Your next stop should be Old Town Tacoma, for its historical walking tour. You'll encounter one of the tiniest museums, the Jeb Carr Cabin, which is a reconstruction of the first settler's 1864 dwelling. When you tire of strolling, enjoy lunch at one of the area's vintage restaurants.

After lunch, head to the remodeled Union Station, which has housed the Washington State History Museum since 1996. The museum's tours—many interactive—usher you past exhibits that range from early Native Americans to modern-day commerce, such as logging, coal mining, farming and fishing. Displays also highlight the Great Depression, dam building and the airplane industry.

For Northwestern art, your next stop should be the Museum of Glass, which features Dale Chihuly's glass art. A 90-foot-high replica of a sawdust burner houses the hot shop, where glass artists create works before your eyes.

Next to the cabin is one of Fort Nisqually's two blockhouse towers.

BY KAREN A. ROBERTSON

The latest addition to this city of museums is the new $22 million home of the Tacoma Art Museum, which opened on May 3, 2003, in downtown Tacoma. Lewis and Clark will be featured in an exhibit that runs from Feb. 14-May 31, 2004. Contemporary artists will use three themes from the Lewis and Clark Journals—race, place and memory—to explore conditions that shaped the West for the past two centuries.

Not all of Tacoma is a museum. The city has a bustling industrial base and seaport. From the Port Observation Tower you can watch a 300-foot crane unloading cargo ships the length of a football field. You can also enjoy musical and sporting events at Tacoma Dome. Hiking and biking trails, boat trips, and buses to 14,411-foot Mount Rainier are also popular. The nightlife may not be as raucous as in the days of sail but at least you won't get shanghaied.

JoAnn Roe is a member of Western Writers of America and Society of American Travel Writers and has written 14 books.

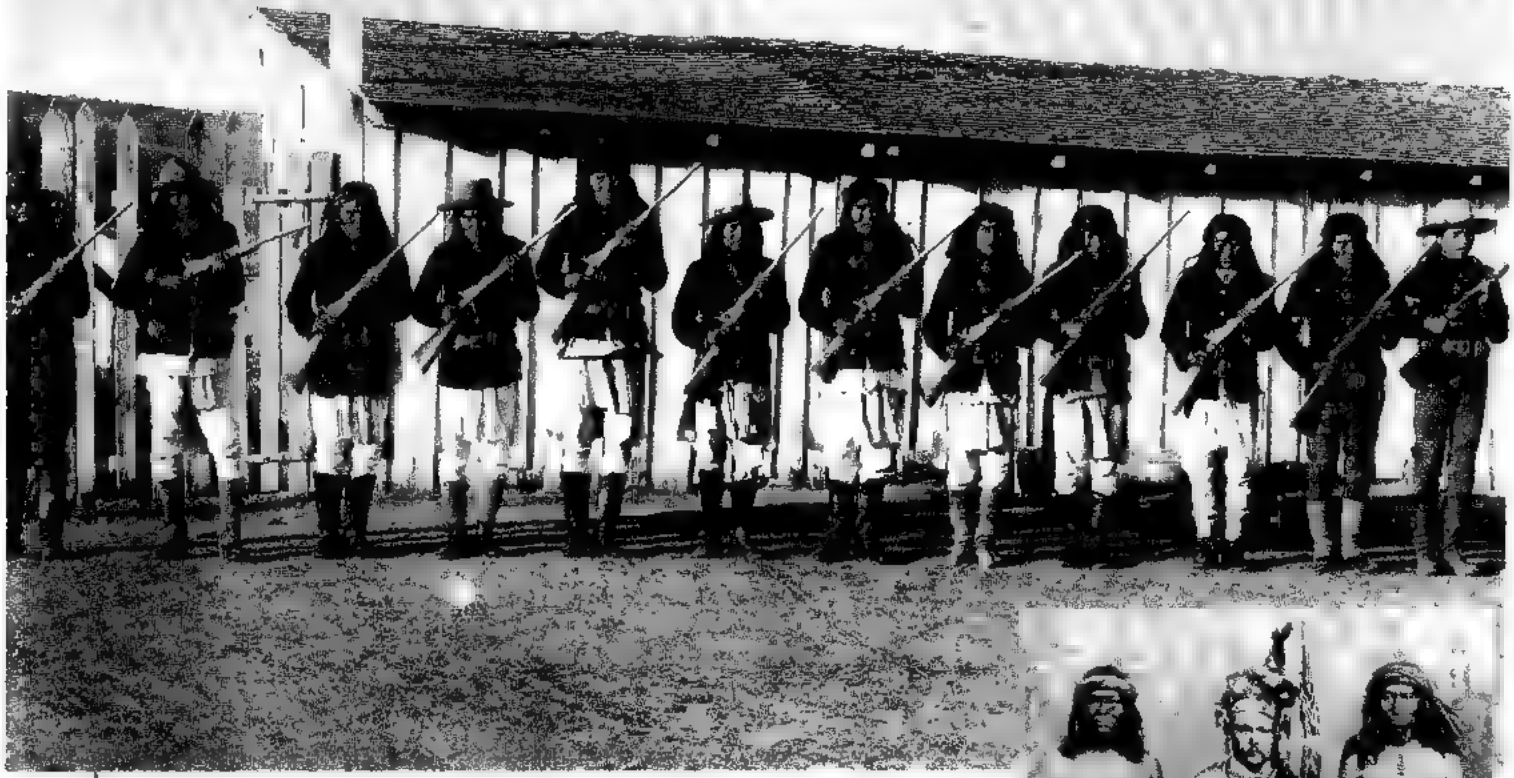
"The only reason for time is so that everything doesn't happen at once."

- Albert Einstein

BY C. CLARKE

A Question of Loyalty

Apache scouts track their renegade kin.



In the years following the Civil War, the Apaches vigorously fought to stop Westward expansion into the Arizona and New Mexico Territories. Few other tribes could match the Apaches' tracking, hunting and scouting abilities. Movement, concealment, surprise and the land itself was used to their advantage, oftentimes as weapons.

As the Apaches' attacks on travelers, teamsters, ranches and towns increased, Pres. Grant sent troops into the territories to offer protection. The army had orders to subdue and control the Apaches any way it could. But the troops had to find them first. Many a weary soldier felt only an Apache could catch an Apache.

Gen. George Crook was first to use an Indian against members of his own tribe. He is reported as saying, "To polish a diamond, there is nothing like its own dust." The civilian and military populace was wary, however, and distrustful toward the new recruits. Where was the Apaches' loyalty to their own?

(Above) Capt. Emmet Crawford chose to do his operations solely with Indian troops, such as these scouts from the San Carlos Reservation in Arizona. Scouts' field uniforms often consisted of calico shirts, cotton breeches, scarlet headbands and knee-length deerskin moccasins. The cartridge belts with 40 rounds of ammunition and Springfield breech-loading rifles were standard issue.

– All photos True West Archives unless otherwise noted –

(Inset) Al Sieber, chief of scouts at the San Carlos Reservation, is seated in the center of four Apache scouts in 1883. Directly behind him is Squaw Mack, who lived with the Indians.

– Courtesy Gatewood Collection of the Arizona Pioneers' Historical Society –

Gen. Crook often recruited White Mountain Apaches, such as those above, to fight against Chiricahua Apaches. These scouts had just returned from campaigning against Victorio and his band in October 1880.

The answer lies in the fact the Apaches did not live under a central government. The tribe was divided into tribal groups: divisions, bands and large family units.

Even though each group was culturally and linguistically similar, its members felt little bond with other groups.

Tribal jealousies or quarrels drove some warriors to hire on as scouts. The prospect of being confined to a reservation inspired others, since a scout was free to come and go. Some were coerced to enlist or be considered the enemy

"Crook informed [the Apaches] that . . . by joining forces with the conqueror rather than resisting him, they would spare their own people further death and devastation," according to *The View from Officer's Row* by Sherry L. Smith.

Glory gained in battle was more important to Apache scouts than tribal unity.

Other incentives included the army's offer of money, weapons, ammunition, a good horse with saddle and warm clothing. Material wealth gave an Apache man status within his own group. A wealthy man could better care for his extended family, aspire to leadership and take a second bride.

No one thought the worse of an Apache who sold his marketable skills to the army for monetary gain. Throughout Apache history, to acquire wealth by killing one's enemies was considered a virtue. Although it may seem strange today, at the time it took only a small step for Apache scouts to hunt and kill Apache renegades.

C. Clarke has devoted years of study to the Apaches and the Arizona Territory

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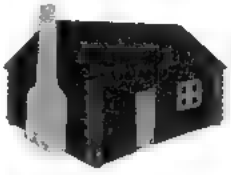

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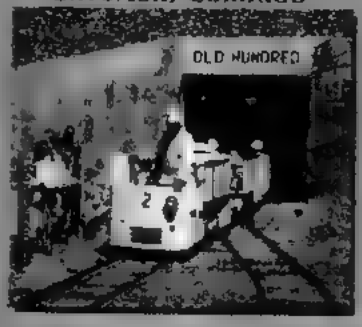

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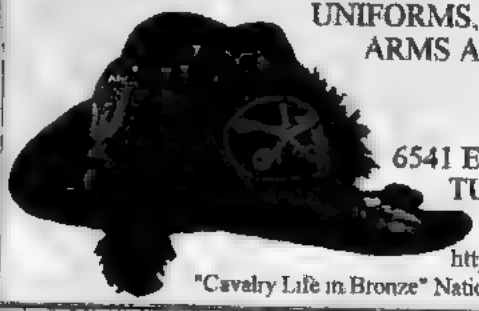

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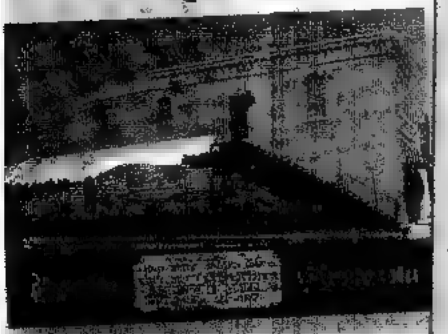
Younger Brothers Capture



The above mural depicts the capture of the Younger Brothers and the killing of Charlie Pitts, all members of the infamous Jesse James Gang, on September 21, 1876, eight miles west of Madelia, Minnesota. The event is reenacted on the second Saturday of September each year. This year it will be **September 13, 2003.**

For more information, contact
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NONFICTION

RODEO QUEENS AND THE AMERICAN DREAM

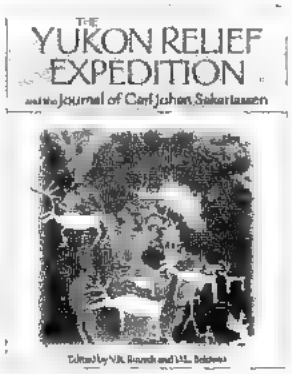
JOAN BURBICK, PUBLIC AFFAIRS BOOKS, $26.00, HARDCOVER.

Burbick brings a neglected part of Western Americana to life in this delightful book of female rodeo participants. From contestants to queens, these remarkable women and their life stories are exciting and heartwarming. Even the topic of gender and racial bias is covered realistically. America's rodeo women are tailored with raw grit. A true treasure. —LINDA WOMMACK

THE YUKON RELIEF EXPEDITION AND THE JOURNAL OF CARL JOHAN SAKARIASSEN

EDITED BY V.R. RAUSCH AND D.L. BALDWIN, UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA PRESS, $26.95, SOFTCOVER.

One of the oddest operations in Western history was the government's 1898 plan to bring food "on the hoof" to supposedly starving Yukon miners. Reindeer were sent by ship and rail from Norway to Alaska, then trail-herded to their destination. Most of the herders were wild (and drunken) Lapps, but one was Carl Johan Sakariassen, whose journal is published here. Ironically, the miners avoided starvation, while the drovers (and their herd) suffered from malnutrition. But the surviving animals of the experimental ranches, called reindeer stations, succeeded in establishing domesticated caribou herds in Alaska. —RICHARD H. DILLON



CAPTAIN JOHN H. ROGERS, TEXAS RANGER

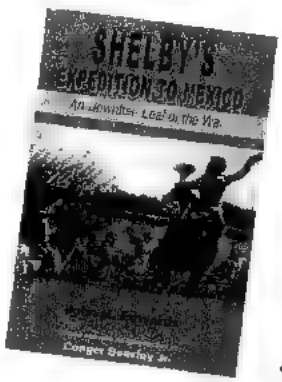
PAUL N. SPELLMAN, UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS PRESS, $29.95, HARDCOVER.

Spellman has illuminated a worthy Texas lawman and the extraordinary era during which he served. Capt. John H. Rogers joined the Rangers as a private in 1882 and steadily made his way up through the ranks from sergeant to captain. He was a gentleman of spotless integrity, who was known to be fair, honest and fearless. His philosophy was: "Once you have pulled your guns use them with absolute resolve." He certainly did during his career as a Ranger, which lasted until 1911, before he became a U.S. marshal and Austin's chief of police. A good addition to Texas Ranger lore. —CHUCK LEWIS

AN AMERICAN EPIC OF DISCOVERY: THE LEWIS AND CLARK JOURNALS

EDITED BY GARY E. MOULTON, UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA PRESS, $29.95, HARDCOVER.

Editing the Lewis and Clark journals proved to be Moulton's own proving ground into a world of linguistics, geology, botany and Native American culture. After completing his 13-volume masterpiece, Moulton sought to bring Lewis, Clark and other Corps members' words to a wider audience by editing this abridged version. Each journal entry brings us closer to what the novelist Henry James called "the visitable past"—encapsulated moments that still lead us to great discoveries. —MEGHAN SAAR



SHELBY'S EXPEDITION TO MEXICO

JOHN N. EDWARDS, UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS PRESS, $29.95, HARDCOVER.

Equaling any march by Xerxes or Alexander, Confederate Gen. Jo Shelby led his Arkansas veterans 1,500 miles southward for a place to defy the victorious United States. After battling Indians, Juaristas and renegades at the gates of Mexico City, the former

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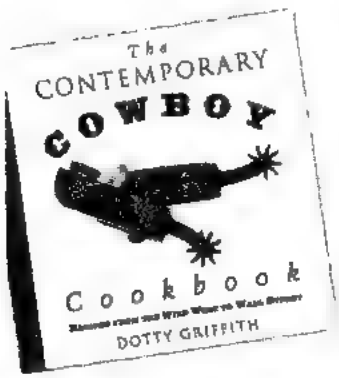
Confederates found their offer of aid spurned by France's puppet Emperor Maximilian. The Iron Brigade's magnificent maneuver would have been lost if it wasn't for the pen of Shelby's adjutant proving mightier than the general's sword. Lost for a hundred years, this fascinating, blood-and-thunder account will capture a new generation of readers.
—BILL GARWOOD

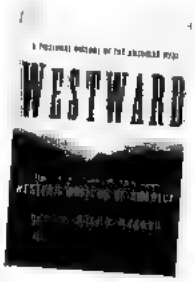


THE CONTEMPORARY COWBOY COOKBOOK: RECIPES FROM THE WILD WEST TO WALL STREET

DOTTY GRIFFITH, LONE STAR BOOKS, $24.95, HARDCOVER.

Campfire grub is not exactly on the menu in this fun little cookbook. What you will find is a host of recipes from Indian fry bread to avocados stuffed with blue cheese. And those are just the appetizers! Mouthwatering recipes include Bone-in Ribeye, Vaquero Beans and Chocolate Fried Pies. An amazing collection of fun food, all with Western ingredients.
—LINDA WOMMACK

FICTION



WESTWARD: A FICTIONAL HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN WEST

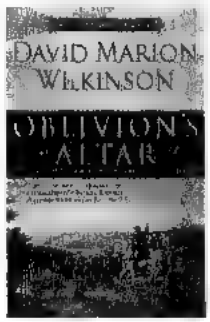
EDITED BY DALE L. WALKER, FORGE BOOKS, $25.95, HARDCOVER.

This relatively small volume is packed with 28 stories written by some of today's greatest writers. The historical tales are told chronologically—from the Indian's first sighting of the horse to how the West evolved into the 20th century. John Jakes, Dale Walker, Matt Braun and Michelle Black tackle great Western subjects, such as Belle Starr, Crazy Horse, Doc Holliday, John Chivington and many more. A 50th-anniversary celebration by Western Writers of America, *Westward* is a treasure for all Western enthusiasts. —LINDA WOMMACK

BLACK HAT BUTTE

JOHN D. NESBITT, LEISURE BOOKS, $4.99, SOFTCOVER.

Sticking up from the surrounding plains, Black Hat Butte is the focal point of Noel Braden's life. The ranch of the woman he loves can be seen from its slopes, as well as his own small claim waiting to be developed. Until its completion, Noel works as a cowhand for the Arrow Seven ranch and ends up in the middle of a cattle rustling mystery that gets two of his friends killed. Accusing the big hats will put Braden's own future in question, but how far can he push them? He's about to find out. Author John Nesbitt knows working cowboys and ranch life well enough for you to chew the dirt with his characters as this tale unfolds.
—CHUCK LEWIS



OBLIVION'S ALTAR: A NOVEL OF COURAGE

DAVID MARION WILKINSON, NAL, $14.00, SOFTCOVER.

The early history of the Cherokees and their struggles with the government and its aggressive white populace is the backdrop for this excellent novel. John Ridge, a Cherokee warrior, once found peace in Pres. Andrew Jackson's words, before realizing the words amounted to nothing. Undaunted, Ridge begins encouraging his people to educate themselves so they can live with the white man. Despite Ridge's efforts, his people end up driven from their homeland onto the tragic Trail of Tears. *Oblivion's Altar* is a riveting tale, recounting a landmark event in American history
—LINDA WOMMACK

REFLECTIONS OF A HORSEMAN

JACK TERRY, BLUE COTTAGE GIFTS, $16.99, HARDCOVER.

Through the memories Jack Terry's grandfather shared with him under "the old mesquite tree" and his own experiences growing up, Terry uses horsemanship to give us a wonderful glimpse of life's lessons. Like Terry says, "The horse you get off is not the *same* horse you got on; it is your job as a rider to ensure that as often as possible the change is for the better." Whether you're a cowboy, farmer or city slicker, you'll enjoy this gallopin' read. —TED GACSI

CDs for the bunkhouse

NEVER COULD WALK THE LINE

Eric Hisaw

STOCKADE RECORDS, 2002.

Interstate 10 between Tucson and El Paso is a great stretch of road to set your cruise control, sit back and turn up the tunes. Eric Hisaw's new CD certainly fits the terrain. His honest, dust-colored vocals show he's doubtlessly traveled this road many times. (He's originally from Las Cruces, New Mexico.) Owing an obvious debt to Steve Earle, Bob Dylan and even Keith Richards, Hisaw is nevertheless a talented singer-songwriter in his own right. And whether you find yourself between Tucson and El Paso or Des Moines and Minneapolis, Eric Hisaw would be welcome company. —LARRY JOHNS

TIS SWEET TO BE REMEMBERED

Jim & Jesse

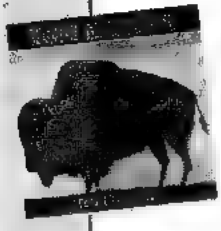
PINECASTLE RECORDS, 2003.

Jim and Jesse McReynolds perform in the brother duet tradition so often heard in older country music acts, such as the Blue Sky Boys. When they began this project in February 2002, Jim was battling throat cancer. Through the miracle of the recording studio, earlier recordings of his voice are heard on some songs. The bulk of his usual vocal harmonies are performed by family members who make up the current Virginia Boys. Jim passed away in December. —GUS WALKER

MODERN ART

Tom Russell

HIGHTONE RECORDS, 2003



On his new CD, Tom Russell pays homage to Muhammad Ali, Mickey Mantle, Stephen Foster and Charles Bukowski, among others. Using first person narratives, Russell allows his subjects to speak for themselves—an aging Mickey Mantle reflects on the highs and lows of his life and Stephen Foster hallucinates the scenes to his songs as he dies in the American Hotel. Powerful, imaginative and beautiful, *Modern Art* is the work of a true modern artist. —LARRY JOHNS

WHAT YOU SEE

Dennis Jay

LINKHORN MUSIC, 2002

Listening to *What You See* is like stepping into a smokey, dim-lit, Arkansas honky-tonk on a Saturday night in 1955. It's a straight-from-the-heart slice of life and Jay is a back-to-basics kinda guy when it comes to writing and performing. The influence of Hank Williams, Ernest Tubb and Lefty Frizzell haunt his "Folk and Western" compositions. His stripped-down accompaniment by lead guitarist Tim Griffin and bassist Bob Graver is given an occasional boost by fiddle and percussion. If you like Jay's style, catch him at the Gene Autry Museum's annual Cowboy Music and Poetry Festival. —GUS WALKER

COUNTRY FOR TRUE LOVERS

Eleni Mandell

ZEDTONE, 2003.

Eleni Mandell takes a turn for country on her new CD. While she has included country tunes in her repertoire in the past, this is her first all-country effort. Sounding like a sultry Patsy Cline, Mandell's sensual and whispery neo-lounge-styled vocals are rich in feeling. With eight original songs—and four covers from Merle Haggard, Irma Thomas, Tammy Wynette and Bob Dylan—Mandell proves what a soulful art form traditional country music really is. —LARRY JOHNS

FINALLY!

The Dalhart Imperials

BIG BENDER RECORDS, 2003.

These guys know how to raise the roof! Their brand of Western swing is a clever mix of rockabilly, ragtime, honky-tonk and pure country driven masterfully by the hypnotic slap-back bass of Aaron Pope. Hailing from Denver, Colorado, the Imperials write most of their material, but occasionally add an obscure country nugget to their playlist. *Finally!* is appropriately titled since their first full-length album features a traditional country sound missing from so many of today's top-40 so-called "country" acts. —GUS WALKER

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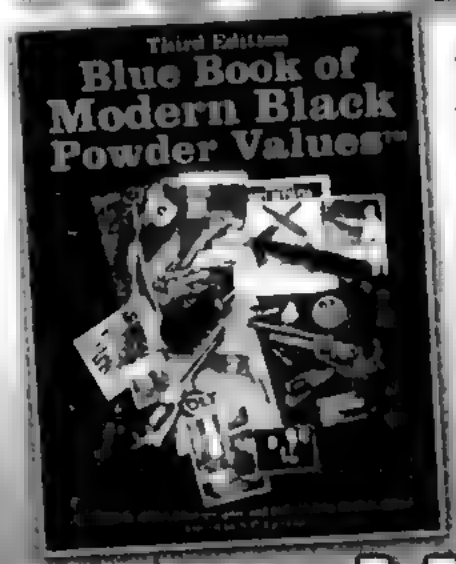

The new 3rd edition ***Blue Book of Modern Black Powder Values*** by John Allen with color photography and editorial by Dennis Adler. This popular title has also been expanded to an 8½ x 11 in. format, and contains up-to-date information and pricing on both new and discontinued modern black powder reproductions and replicas. An important feature in this 3rd edition is a section on proofmarks and factory markings, allowing you to identify the manufacturer and date on most popular reproductions and replicas. Also available by online subscription – please check our web site: **www.bluebookinc.com.**

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BY CORINNE BROWN

Still Horsin' Around

Don Coldsmith.

Advice to writers usually begins with "write what you know." In Don Coldsmith's case, that would include a range of topics from ranching to practicing medicine, from serving in the military in WWII to teaching literature at the college level today. An award-winning author who has been referred to as "one of the most influential writers of the 20th century," Don has lived a rich and varied life. This experience is the palette from which he has not only drawn his knowledge of the human condition, but also his credible characters and the prose that rivets the readers of his 40-plus books.

Don is most famous for his hit series, *The Spanish Bit Saga*. His lifelong fascination with Western history was spurred by finding a Spanish-pattern bit in an Oklahoma junk barrel. Realizing he had stumbled on a link to the region's past, he began researching the era of the early explorers. This led him to the Plains Indians, a subject about which Don is now a respected authority. His first novel, *Trail of the Spanish Bit*, was published by Doubleday in 1980 and later by Bantam in paperback. The book was followed by 32 sequential novels and is now in its 19th printing in paperback. It was one of the first stories to be written from the Indian's point of view, which is a testament to its success.

Although Don was in his mid-40s when he started magazine writing, it appears his talent was latent all along. His first novel has all the authority and polish of his later titles, such as *Rivers West: The Smoky Hill* (1989) and *Runestone* (1995), a historical novel about Norsemen in 11th-century America. More recent works include *Tallgrass, South Wind* and *Long Journey Home*, a compelling work about an Indian boy in government schools in the early 1900s.

A master of research, Don Coldsmith writes four to five hours a day, then resumes the necessary chores to run the small cattle ranch he and his wife Edna maintain near the outskirts of Emporia, Kansas. A practicing physician for 30 years, Don is also a serious cow-calf breeder. He once raised Appaloosa horses too, and proudly notes that he twice raised the Mid-America Regional Champion baby stallion. In 1971, Don was asked to write a newspaper column about regional horse activities. Titled "Horsin' Around," it grew to include nostalgic, newsy and mostly humorous bits about the people and folklore of Kansas and the West. He published a collection of these weekly columns in 1975. *Still Horsin' Around* is its recent sequel. The syndicated column, going strong since 1971, now numbers over 1,600 articles.

Don Coldsmith: best known for his series* The Spanish Bit Saga *and his syndicated column "Horsin' Around."

– Courtesy Corinne Brown –

A quiet, refined and articulate man, Don is also down-to-earth and entertaining. Beneath his Midwestern, laid-back demeanor is a sharp wit and keen eye. He's also a compelling speaker who can enthrall audiences with his insights. His writing style is his mirror: unpretentious and wonderfully narrative; his books aren't easily put down. In 1990, Don won the coveted Western Writers of America Spur Award for fiction for *The Changing Wind*. When recently asked what advice he would give to aspiring writers, he answered with a classic understatement –"Find another way to make a living and write on the side."

Corinne Brown is a native Coloradan, Western author, a staff writer for *Persimmon Hill* and a fashion writer for *Western & English Today* and *True West*.

"Broad-minded is just another way of saying a fellow is too lazy to form an opinion."

- Will Rogers

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WRITING AWARDS

The best Western writing of 2002 has been recognized by the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum and the Western Writers of America.

Western Heritage Awards

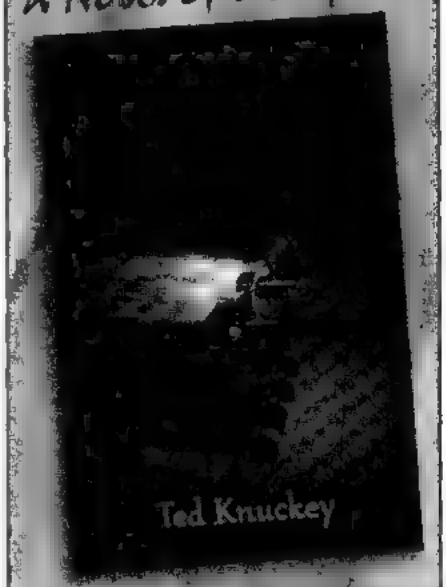
* Western novel: *Moon of Bitter Cold* by Frederick J. Chiaventone.
* Nonfiction: *Singing in the Saddle* by Douglas B. Green.
* Art: *Cowboy Artists of America* by Michael Duty.
* Juvenile: *The Great Storm: The Hurricane Diary of J.T. King* by Lisa Waller Rogers.
* Magazine article: "Tales of the Texas Rangers" by Robert Utley in *American Heritage* magazine.
* Poetry: *Amazing Grace* by Larry D. Thomas.

WWA Spur Awards

* Novel of the West and Medicine Pipe Bearer Award for best first novel: *Perma Red* by Debra Magpie Earling.
* Western Novel: *The Chili Queen* by Sandra Dallas.
* Original Paperback Novel: *Oblivion's Altar: A Novel of Courage* by David Marion Wilkinson.
* Historical Nonfiction: *Blood of the Prophets: Brigham Young and the Massacre at Mountain Meadows* by Will Bagley.
* Contemporary Nonfiction: *Din: A History of the Navajos* by Peter Iverson.
* Biography: *Sam Houston* by James L. Haley.
* Western Drama Script: *King of Texas* by Stephen Harrigan.
* Western Documentary Script: *Custer's Last Stand* by Daniel Levitt.
* Western Short Fiction: "The Old Man" by Jimbo Brewer.
* Western Short Nonfiction: "Winter in the Rockies: Winter Quarters of the Mountain Men" by Kerry R. Oman in *Montana: The Magazine of Western History.*
* Storyteller Award for best illustrated children's book: *Will Rogers: An American Legend* by Frank Keating and illustrator Mike Wimmer.
* Western Juvenile Fiction: *The Big Burn* by Jeanette Ingold.
* Western Juvenile Nonfiction: *Raising La Belle* by Mark G. Mitchell.

True West magazine's Executive Editor Bob Boze Bell was a finalist for a Spur Award in Western Short Nonfiction for "The Battle of Northfield."

A Novel of Deception



A late-night phone call sucks cowboy-private eye Dutch Evans into a maze of mayhem and murder involving his former lover and her dead son-in-law.

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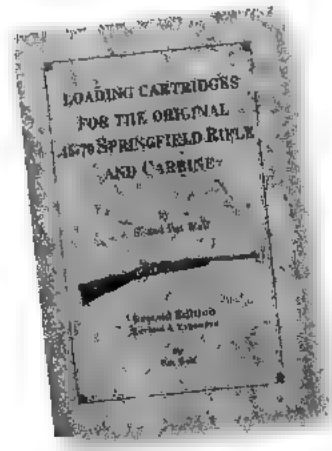

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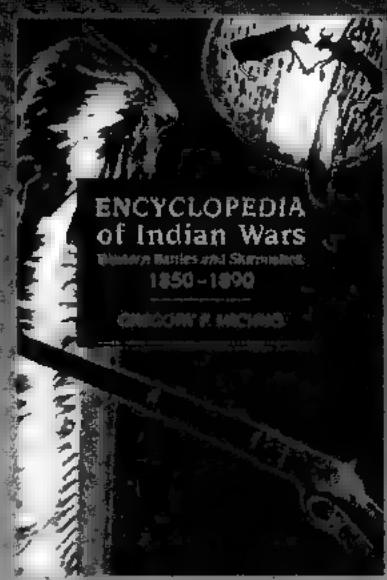
ENCYCLOPEDIA OF INDIAN WARS

Western Battles and Skirmishes, 1850 – 1890



Gregory Michno has created a chronological listing of every significant fight between Indians and the United States Army, as well as better-known Indian battles with civilian emigrants. This book is an illuminating portrayal of a violent era and a compelling examination of frontier warfare.

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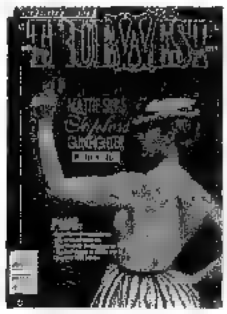

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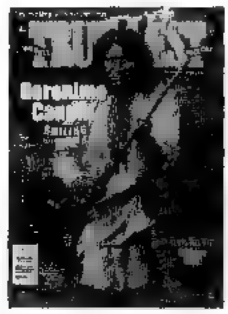
Feb./Mar. 01 **
Wyatt Earp

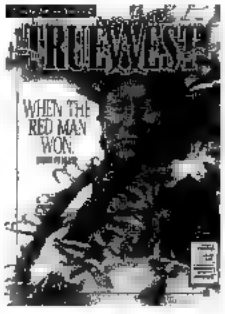


April 01
Geronimo

May/June 01 * **
Custer

July 01 **
Cowboys & Cowtowns

Aug./Sept. 01 **
Wild Bill Hickok



Oct. 01
Red Man Won

Nov./Dec. 01 **
Doc Holliday

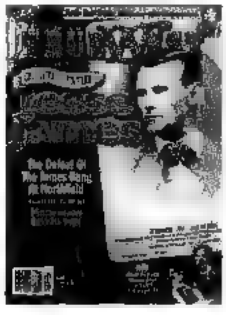
Jan. 02 **
Uncommon Men

Feb./Mar. 02 **
The Alamo

April 02 **
Scouts

May/June 02 **
Wayward Women

July 02 **
Texas Rangers



Aug./Sept. 02
Jesse James

Oct. 02
Billy the Kid

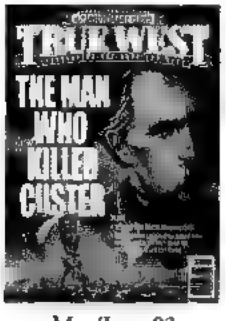
Nov./Dec. 02
Butch & Sundance

Jan. 03
50 Photos

Feb./Mar. 03
50 Guns

April 03
John Wayne

Travel Special 03
Renegade Roads



May/June 03
Man Who Shot Custer

July 03
Doc & Wyatt

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Finest

In Each Issue We Profile Some Of The Finest Purveyors Of The Old West.

George Boutwell

George Boutwell.

– Courtesy George Boutwell

George Boutwell paints with his imagination. While it's true that he also uses brushes and watercolors, they're merely the physical tools he needs to transfer the nostalgic images of rural Texas from his mind's eye to paper. Whether his paintings are of downtown Yoakum's Victory Square, a covey of quail amid a yellow-flowering prickly pear cactus or a feed and seed store in Silver City, they evoke the tranquil feeling of a less troubled time.

A self-taught artist, George began drawing at age three and, in his words, hasn't "been able to quit yet." Born in East Hartford, Connecticut, he moved to Texas at an early age. After honing his artistic skill as a technical illustrator and then art director of *Texas Highways* magazine for six years, George began painting full-time in 1973. He and his wife Martha now live on a ranch in a 1904 Victorian home overlooking the Bosque River Valley near Clifton.

George's list of awards would fill this column and include Best of Show (voted by the public) at the 1983 Fort Worth Cowtown Invitational and First Place Watercolor (voted by the participating artists) at the Top of Texas Art Festival in Pampa.

Texas Oasis, *from George Boutwell's Texas collection.*

Courtesy George Boutwell

The stories behind George's paintings are as captivating as the images and show the vividness of his imagination. For example, where most folks would look at a row of old buildings on the outskirts of Pineland, Texas, and see only faded paint and clapboards, George saw and painted how they could have looked in 1959 or '60 when ranchers would have stopped in the café for an "Early Bird Breakfast."

Goldfield Ghost Town

Step aside Jesse James and Wyatt Earp. It wasn't outlaws and lawmen who put the Old West on the map; it was prospectors and miners—men and women who endured danger, loneliness and hard physical labor in their quest for silver and gold.

The ghosts have come alive in Goldfield, which has been restored to its late 1800s look.

Courtesy LouAnn Schoose

In 1892, prospectors found gold at the base of Arizona's Superstition Mountains, and within a year, nearly 4,000 people descended on the strike, creating the town of Goldfield. Over the next five years, miners dug color from the dirt, but then the vein pinched out and so did the town. By 1926, Goldfield had become a ghost town.

In 1984, demolitions expert Robert Schoose, his wife LouAnn and a couple of partners purchased the town site, intending to turn it into a tourist mecca. That his friends told Robert he was crazy did not dissuade him. Five years later, Goldfield opened to the public with a mine tour (in a recreated mine; the original mines are too hazardous to enter), snack bar and gift shop. The first day, the venture made $9.00. Believing that he truly was onto a gold mine, Robert continued adding to the town, rebuilding it to look like it did during its heyday. Today, Goldfield—about 40 minutes east of Phoenix—welcomes thousands of visitors per year, entertaining them with a desert jeep tour, horse and carriage ride, narrow gauge railroad, rattlesnake exhibit and an 1890s replica gold mine tour. The town also sponsors special events such as stew and chili cook-offs and mule days, which include mule packing and barrel and obstacle-course racing. The town's latest addition is a bordello museum, where you can learn all about the soiled doves whose services, shall we say, helped boost the miners' morale.

LouAnn and Robert Schoose: an Old West couple in an Old West ghost town.

– Courtesy LouAnn Schoose –

So, whether you want a mammoth-sized steak or a shot of red eye, Goldfield is fun for the whole family. And yes, you can even pan for gold.

— R.G. Robertson

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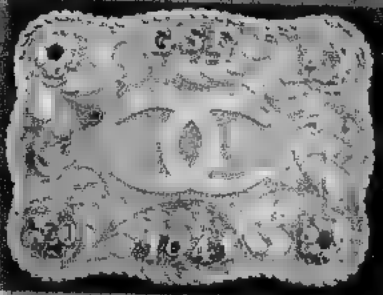

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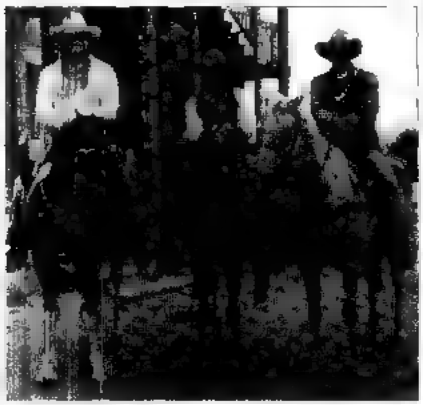

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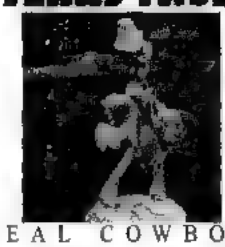

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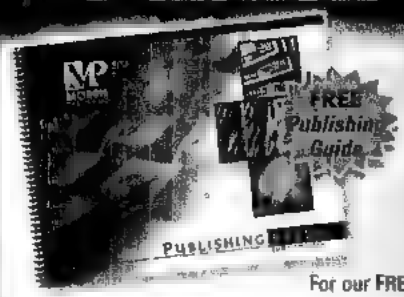

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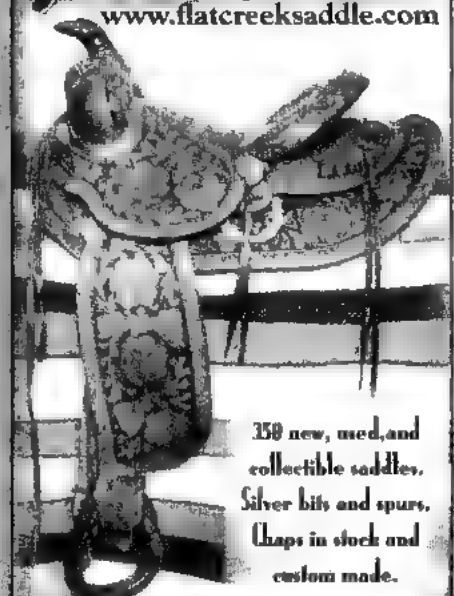

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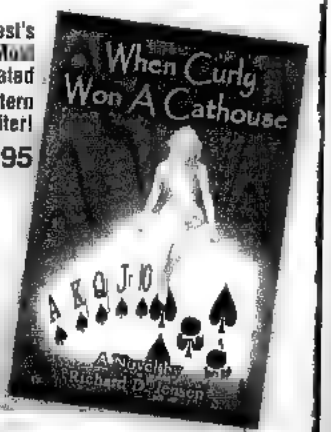

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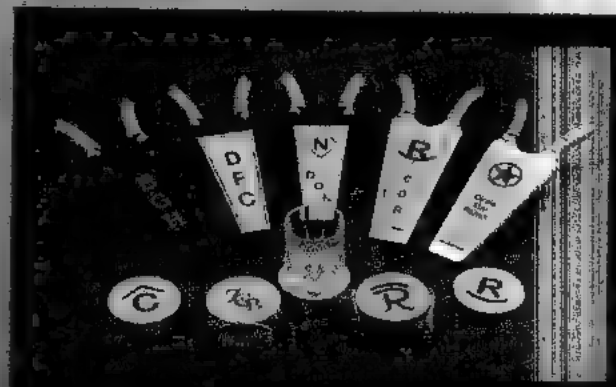

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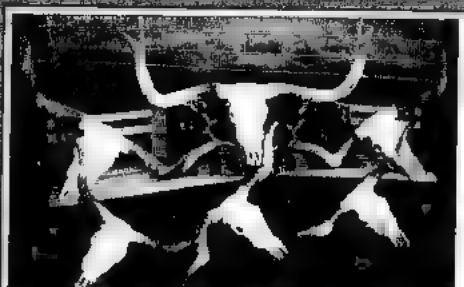

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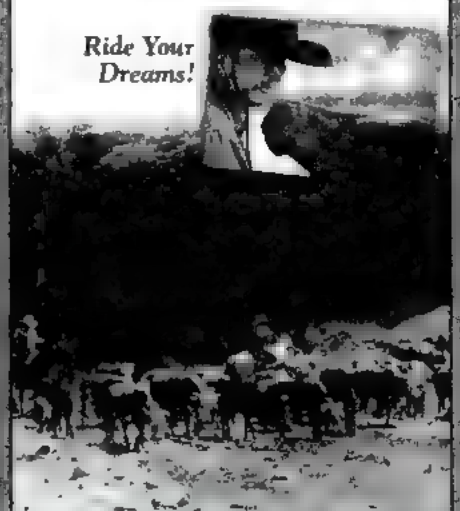

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Q We're all familiar with Lester Moore's gravestone in Tombstone's Boot Hill, but who was Lester Moore?

Gary Ledoux a.k.a. Mayor Clum
Via the Internet

A Les Moore was a Wells Fargo agent at Naco, Arizona, during the 1880s. His life had been pretty nondescript until he met Hank Dunston.

Dunston was impatiently expecting a package. When it arrived damaged, Dunston argued his way into an Old West shoot-out, firing four times and fatally wounding Les Moore. Before he went down, Moore fired a fatal round into Dunston.

Lester Moore has gained more fame under the ground than he ever did on top of it.

- BOB WILLIS -

Les Moore's friends brought him to Tombstone for burial. According to Tombstone historian, Ben Traywick, nobody seems to know if Les' friends inscribed the poem or if some clever scribe did it later.

Q I have a .41 caliber, Remington Model 95, double-barrel derringer. It's a Type II, Model #3 with serial number 426. The derringer is in excellent condition and has been in our family since circa 1910. Is this pistol rare?

Jim Sorrell
Fort Smith, Arkansas

A I contacted my old friend Charlie Ross, a gun dealer in Chandler, Arizona, and he tells me that between 1866 and 1934, Remington produced about 150,000 blue and nickel Type II Model 95 .41 caliber derringers.

The price range is from $1,500 for one in 98% excellent condition to $500 for one in poor condition.

Q Can you tell me anything about the Marlow brothers and the Texas Rangers? They were my great-uncles.

George Hurd
Lake City, Colorado

A Boone Marlow and his four brothers, Charlie, George, Alf and Llewellyn "Lep" (or Epp) were sons of a stockman and doctor.

The family lived in various parts of the Southwest and Mexico, before settling in Wilbarger County, Texas.

In 1886, Boone, the youngest, was indicted for murder. About the same time, all five brothers were arrested for rustling ponies from Indians in the Oklahoma Territory.

All five were released on bond but when lawmen learned Boone was wanted for murder, an attempt was made to rearrest him.

Boone shot and killed County Sheriff Marion Wallace and escaped, but his four brothers were rearrested. A mob killed Alf and Lep on January 19, 1889, and wounded the other two brothers.

Boone, meanwhile, was having a rough time. A band of bounty hunters poisoned him in the Oklahoma Territory, then fired bullets into his carcass and hauled him to Graham, Texas, to claim the reward money. Instead of the $1,500 reward, they got jail time. George and Charlie lived to be old men.

Q Could you provide me with biographical information on Judge Roy Bean?

Steven Ebey
Macomb, Illinois

A The colorful "Law West of the Pecos" was born in Kentucky, between 1825-30. He claimed to have driven an ammunition wagon for Gen. Zachary Taylor during the Mexican War before hauling goods with his brother Sam along the Santa Fe Trail.

In 1852, he was jailed after a duel in

Judge Roy Bean and his two sons and two daughters, in Langtry, Texas.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -

San Diego. He broke out of jail and escaped to Los Angeles, where he fought another duel over a woman. After killing his adversary, he was unsuccessfully hanged. Legend says he managed to touch his toes to the ground long enough for the woman over whom he'd fought to cut him down. True or not, he did have a scar on his neck.

Next, he headed for Mesilla, New Mexico, where he rode with the Confederate forces during the Civil War. In 1882, he ran a saloon on the Pecos River at Vinegaroon, which he renamed Langtry for actress Lilly Langtry. He named his saloon the Jersey Lilly in her honor. He also became the local "judge," and his verdicts are a rich part of Texas' illustrious history.

Bean died in 1903 and was buried at Del Rio, Texas.

Q Can you tell me something about paper cartridges in the Old West?

Suzanne LaBeay
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

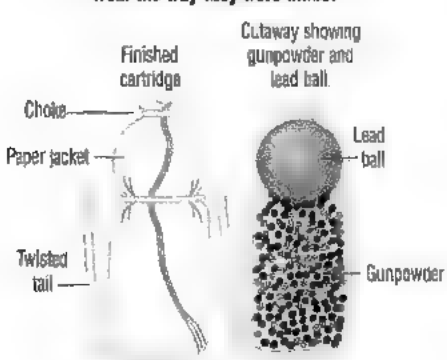
A Before metallic cartridges arrived in the 1850s, gunpowder was encased in paper. The word "cartridge" comes from the Latin word *carta*, or

paper. For some 300 years before the Civil War, soldiers wrapped their powder in individual paper packets. The cartridges were so simple, the soldiers made their own.

To make one, you wrapped a piece of paper around a "former"—a small round stick the diameter of the bore—then closed or "choked" the end of the paper cylinder with string. Then you removed the former and dropped in a greased lead bullet. This was secured with a half hitch of thread. Then you poured in a measured amount of powder. Finally, you twisted the open end of the paper into a tight tail and folded it back against the cartridge. When the trooper was ready to fire the round, he bit through the paper and stuffed it down the barrel with a ramrod.

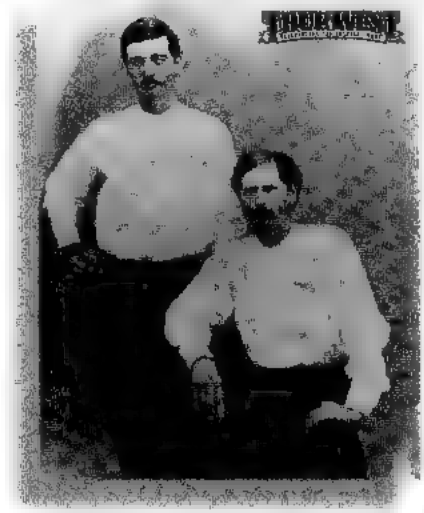
Most frontiersmen disdained paper cartridges and prided themselves on being able to eyeball the correct amount of powder before pouring it directly into the muzzle, which caused frequent accidents. That's how mountain men picked up nicknames like Blackface, Three Finger and Broken Hand.

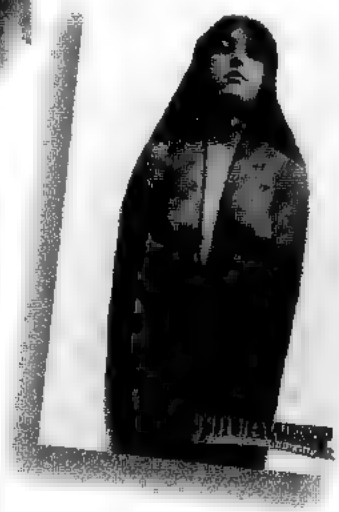
Early paper cartridges shown upside down from the way they were made.



GRAPHIC BY GUS WALKER

Marshall Trimble is Arizona's official historian. His books include *Law of the Gun* and *Never Give A Heifer A Bum Steer*.
If you have a question, write: Ask the Marshall, PO Box 8008, Cave Creek, AZ 85327 or email him at marshall.trimble@scemail.maricopa.edu





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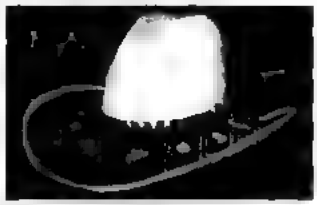

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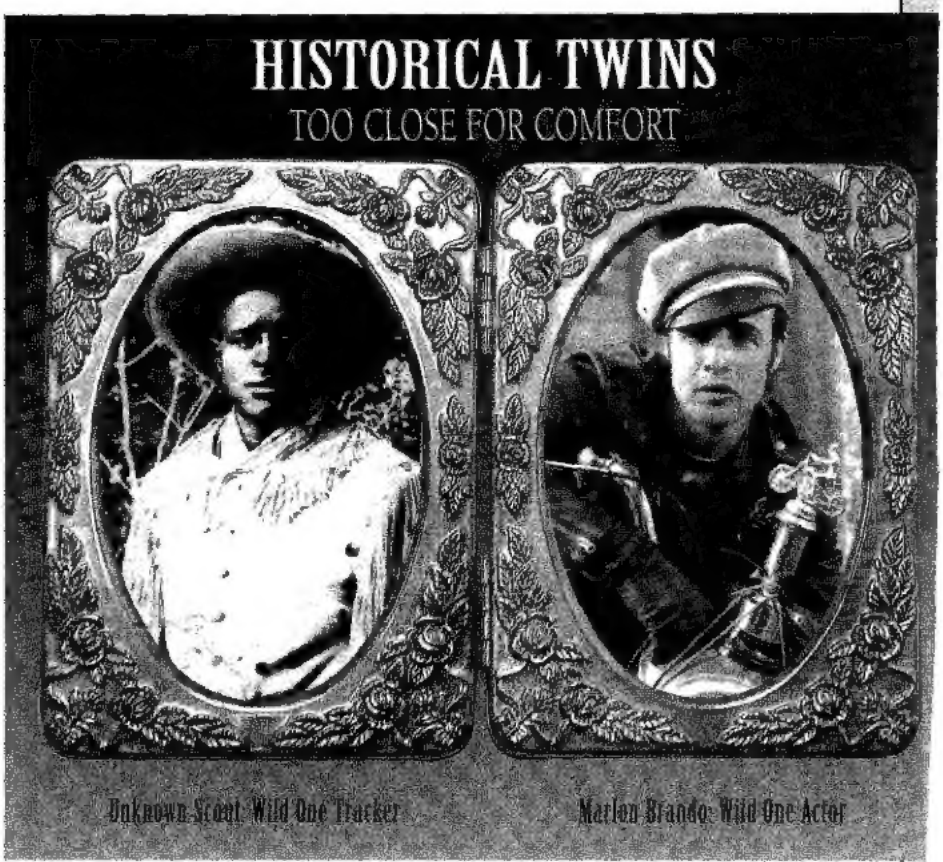
True West Sports Quiz
By Jack Connelly

(Answers below)

1. Roy Rogers was one; so is any athlete for Oklahoma State.
2. What cowboy boot attachment became the nickname of an NBA team?
3. Gunfighter William Bonney and former N.Y. Yankee player and manager Billy Martin shared the same nickname. What was it?
4. A 1974 Western movie costarring the Detroit Lions' linebacker Alex Karras was called *Blazing* _____."

1. A cowboy 2. Spurs (San Antonio) 3. Billy the Kid 4. Saddles



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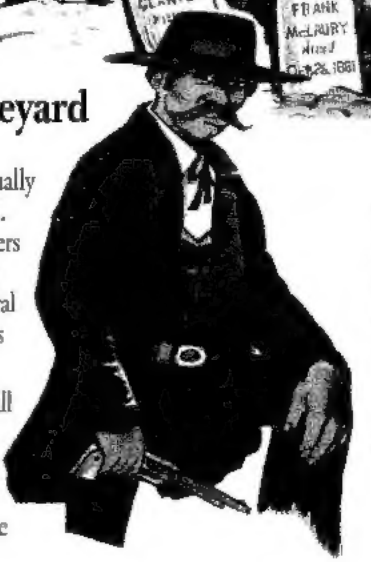

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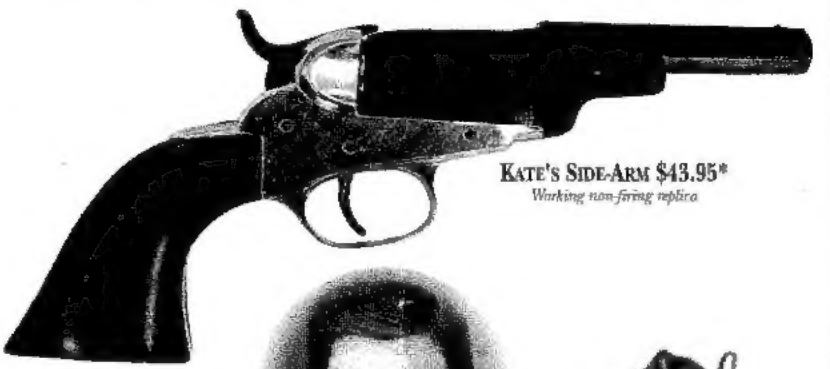

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